

CONSENT FOR IMMUNOTHERAPY (ALLERGY SHOTS)

Allergy injections are intended to decrease your reaction to allergens, the things to which you are allergic. We start the injections using very small doses and increase the dose with each injection until a maintenance level is reached. Initially the injections will be given at weekly intervals. Eventually, they will progress to every 2-4 weeks.

The allergy injections are given from allergy serum that is made especially for you based on your clinical history and the results of your skin testing. Our staff prepares the serum following a strict protocol to ensure safety. The serum is made and placed into different vials based on the strength or “concentration” of each vial. Your first vial will be a lower concentration than the second and so forth until you reach a “maintenance” dose where the concentration is no longer increased. Serum is made well in advance of the day that you receive your allergy shot. The cost of serum preparation is billed to your insurance company when it is made.

You will be receiving substances to which you are allergic; therefore, it is possible that you may experience an allergic reaction. **Reactions are rare but could be life threatening.** All injections must be given in a physician’s office or under the supervision of a physician. This physician should be available on the premises so that the patient will receive treatment immediately, if necessary. Resuscitation equipment and materials necessary to treat anaphylactic reactions, including adrenalin (epinephrine), antihistamines, and IV solutions, must be available. **A small itchy red bump at the site of the shot are common and not worrisome. Reactions that are important to tell us about are those that occur at a location different than where the shot was injected and would include the following:**

1. A sensation of being hot or flushed all over
2. Generalized itching, hives and/or welts
3. Cough, tightness in the chest or wheezing

Following each injection, you will be asked to remain in the office for thirty minutes since any reaction of significance will generally occur within that time period. Reactions occurring after thirty minutes are very mild and often times do not need therapy.

When new bottles of extract are started, there is an increased risk of reaction (because the extract is fresh and more potent). Therefore, ***you must come to our office for the first shot of a new vial***, even if you are routinely receiving shots at a doctor’s office that is not part of ENT & Allergy of Delaware (ENTAD). **Your first shot ever must be given in one of our offices.**

You should not receive injections if you are experiencing chest symptoms or a fever. Please advise the nurse beforehand if you are unsure of your symptoms. You can continue to receive your injections through mild illnesses such as colds, sore throats, etc. Since exercise increases the rate of absorption of the material into the body, you should not engage in exercise such as brisk walking or running for 2 hours after your injection.

In case of a major reaction, take Benadryl and call the office. This will slow down the reaction, not treat it. You should go directly to an emergency room or return to the doctor’s office; whichever is closer, for treatment.

I give permission to administer any treatment necessary in the event of a reaction or complication arising from allergy immunotherapy. The policy of receiving allergy immunotherapy (allergy injections) has been explained to me by ENT & Allergy of Delaware. Potential reactions, necessary precautions and treatments have been explained and all of my questions regarding this policy have been answered. I give permission for an allergy serum to be made for me. My insurance will be billed for the serum.

Patient Name (PRINT): _____

Date: _____

SIGNATURE (patient or parent/guardian) _____

Witness: _____