



*Better
Together*

Patient information

Skin Pricking Test

**Medical Directorate - Cardio Respiratory
Department**

Your Consultant / Doctor has advised you to have a skin prick test.

What is skin prick testing?

Your asthma/chronic cough may be caused by allergens. This test will measure your reaction to these allergens.

What are the benefits of having a skin prick test?

This test will help to decide if one or more allergens contribute to your symptoms.

What are the risks of having a skin prick test?

There may be some mild irritation, a raised lump or redness at the site. This will fade in a short time. There is a very small risk of anaphylactic shock (severe, sometimes life-threatening reaction). The staff will observe you closely during the test.

Are there any alternative tests available?

There is a blood test that can be performed but this is not as specific as a skin prick test, which is why your doctor has chosen for you to have it.

What will happen if I decide not to have treatment?

Your level of service will not be affected if you decide not to have the test. However, your doctor/consultant will not be able to pinpoint the possible cause of your asthma/chronic cough if this test is not performed.

If you have had a severe reaction to anything at all in the past, please inform the staff when you arrive.

Getting ready for your skin prick test

- Stop any antihistamine medications for 48 hours before the test.

Your skin prick test

A small drop of each allergen is placed on your forearm and the skin in this area is lightly pricked with a special lance. It is not a painful procedure. After the skin has been pricked under all the solutions, there is a wait of about 20 minutes to see if a reaction happens. The reaction is in the shape of a small raised lump at the site of a particular allergen. The lump will go after a short time. Calamine lotion may be applied if the lumps are itchy to relieve any irritation caused.

The whole test should last no longer than 40 minutes.

Going Home

The staff will monitor you until you have recovered. You will then be allowed to leave the unit.

Discharge Information

Your testing sites

The raised lumps on your arm should disappear within a few hours. If however, they become larger when your appointment is finished please phone the department for advice.

Returning to work

You can return to your work straight after your appointment unless told otherwise on the day of your test.

Further Appointments

Your consultant will give you the results at your next clinic appointment.

Further Information

Cardio Respiratory Department

Tel: 0151 706 2710

Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2710

Simon Noble

Senior Chief Clinical Physiologist

Cardio Respiratory Department

Tel: 0151 706 2710

Text phone number: 18001 0151 706 2710

Author: Cardio Respiratory Department

Review Date: August 2017

All Trust approved information is available on request in alternative formats, including other languages, easy read, large print, audio, Braille, moon and electronically.

يمكن توفير جميع المعلومات المتعلقة بالمرضى الموافق عليهم من قبل ائتمان المستشفى عند الطلب بصيغ أخرى، بما في ذلك لغات أخرى وبطرق تسهل قراءتها وبالحروف الطباعية الكبيرة وبالصوت وبطريقة برايل للمكفوفين وبطريقة مون والكترونيا.

所有經信托基金批准的患者資訊均可以其它格式提供，包括其它語言、易讀閱讀軟件、大字體、音頻、盲文、穆恩體 (Moon) 盲文和電子格式，敬請索取。

در صورت تمایل می‌توانید کلیه اطلاعات تصویب شده توسط اتحادیه در رابطه با بیماران را به اشکال مختلف در دسترس داشته باشید، از جمله به زبانهای دیگر، به زبان ساده، چاپ درشت، صوت، خط مخصوص کوران، مون و بصورت روی خطی موجود است.

زانیاری بیونیدار بو نمخوشانهی له‌لایمن تراستهوه پساند کراون، نهمگ داوا بکرت له فورمانکائی تردا بریتی له زمانهکائی تر، نیزی رید (هاسان خویندنهوه)، چایی گموره، شریتی دهنگ، هیلی موون و نملیکترونیکی همیه.

所有经信托基金批准的患者信息均可以其它格式提供，包括其它语言、易读阅读软件、大字体、音频、盲文、穆恩体 (Moon) 盲文和电子格式，敬请索取。

Dhammaan warbixinta bukaanleyda ee Ururka ee la oggol yahay waxaa marka la codsado lagu heli karaa nuskhado kale, sida luqado kale, akhris fudud, far waaweyn, dhegeysi, farta braille ee dadka indhaha la', Moon iyo nidaam eletaroonig ah.