

Drug Provocation Test for adults

ALLERGOLOGY

Patient information

You will soon be expected at our clinic for a drug provocation test. During this test, we can determine whether you are allergic to the tested medication.

What is a drug provocation test?

A drug provocation test is an examination in which you are administered specific medication in increasing doses through swallowing or injection. The purpose of this test is to determine whether you are allergic to a particular medication.

Duration of the test

The drug provocation test typically involves 3 to 4 steps, starting with a small amount of medication. After each step, a higher dosage of the medication is administered. There is a wait of one hour (sometimes half an hour) after each step to observe if you develop any symptoms before proceeding to the next step. After the last step, you will be observed for at least another hour. The drug provocation test usually takes 3 to 4 hours, but please be aware that you will need to dedicate your entire day to this process.

Progression of the test

During the drug provocation test, you may experience an allergic reaction. For this reason, the drug provocation test takes place as a day admission under clinical supervision (allowing monitoring of blood pressure, heart rate, etc.) and, if necessary, an intravenous catheter/needle is inserted. In case of an allergic reaction, the drug challenge test will be stopped, and the allergic reaction will be treated with medication. You will stay for observation till the symptoms have sufficiently subsided. The likelihood of experiencing another reaction at home is minimal.

Preparations

Cancellation

- If for any reason you are unable to attend, please call us as soon as possible, so that we can possibly arrange for another patient to take your place.
- In case of fever, flu, severe cold, or (severe) asthma symptoms, the test cannot proceed.
- Pregnancy: because of the potential risk to both mother and child, no provocation tests will be performed on pregnant women.

Medication

- You should refrain from using antihistamines (e.g., levocetirizine, cetirizine, loratadine, desloratadine, fexofenadine) 72 hours prior to the provocation test. These medications can interfere with the test.
- Nasal sprays, eye drops, and ointments can be continued.
- Inhalers for asthma can generally be continued, unless otherwise instructed by your treating specialist.
- If you have started taking medication that is not known to us (e.g., prednisolone), please contact us.

Food and drinks

During the drug provocation test, you are allowed to eat and drink normally. However, you are not allowed to leave the ward. We recommend you bring some food and drinks with you.

Transportation home

Ensure that you do not have to drive home after the drug provocation test. This is due to possible side effects



such as drowsiness, fatigue, or impaired concentration from the medication we might have to administer in case of an allergic reaction. Additionally, the allergic reaction itself may cause fatigue. This affects your responsiveness while driving, therefore it is safer not to drive home yourself.

What do you bring?

- Something to do (for example something to read) since the test usually takes up at least a morning and sometimes the entire day.
- Something to eat and/or drink during/after the drug provocation test.

Results

After the drug provocation test, you will get an appointment with your doctor to discuss the results of the drug provocation test.

Resuscitation

All patients at DC Klinieken are resuscitated in an emergency situation. Have you signed a DNR form or discussed with your doctor that you do not want to be resuscitated? Then it is important to inform us of this.

Insurance coverage

DC Klinieken has contracts with all health insurers. This means that almost all healthcare costs are covered, similar to the hospital. However, you will need a referral from your general practitioner. Please be aware of your insurance excess. For more information about reimbursement and possible exceptions, please visit: www.dcklinieken.nl/vergoedingen.

Questions

For more information and answers to frequently asked questions, please visit: www.dcklinieken.nl/contact or contact our Service and Information Centre at +31 (0) 88 0100 900.

Emergency after visiting DC Klinieken

In case of emergency, call: +31 (0) 88 0100 998.

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