Welcome to the Jaffe Food Allergy Institute

The following information will help you understand the different phases that occur during a visit with us.

WE PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE CARE:
We care for all types of allergic problems including asthma, allergic rhinitis (hayfever), atopic dermatitis (eczema), food allergy, drug allergy, hives, insect sting allergy, severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis), immune system problems and many other allergic disorders. We also offer specialized care focused upon all types of food allergies. We are a preeminent center for clinical care and research on food allergies. We partner with your family to ensure the finest care for your child.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING YOUR VISIT:

Phase 1: Mount Sinai is a teaching hospital which means your visit may begin with your initial Care Provider being your physician’s associate, fellow and/or nurse to discuss your medical history and perform a physical examination.

Phase 2: The Care Provider will then review your history and examination results with your physician.

Phase 3: Your physician will speak with you and examine your child. Allergy testing may be needed. Any testing will be explained in detail before it is performed. (See below for further description).

Phase 4: Skin testing and blood work, if needed.

Phase 5: After any testing is complete, your physician will discuss the management of your child’s allergies.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS:
- Nutrition – Marion Groetch, MS, RD, CDN
- EMPOWER (quality of life and emotional support) – Eyal Shemesh, MD
- Center for Eosinophilic Disorders – Mirna Chehade, MD

EDUCATION:
We offer comprehensive care that includes an emphasis on education about the treatments for each illness. You may meet with physicians and support staff, review written and videotaped instructions, and be referred for additional services that are appropriate to your care, if necessary.

CLINICAL TRIALS:
We have numerous ongoing studies concerning the diagnosis and treatment of food allergy. You/your family may inquire about these at the time of your visit. If you would like to join our mailing list please email foodallergyresearch@mssm.edu

What is a Fellow? A fellow is a physician who has successfully completed an accredited pediatric or internal medicine residency program and is training to become an allergist.

What is a Skin Test? Skin testing for allergies is one method used to identify the substances that may be causing allergy symptoms. An experienced medical assistant will examine the skin and clean it with alcohol. Areas on the skin are then marked with a pen to identify each allergen that will be tested. A drop of extract for each potential allergen is placed on the corresponding mark. A small disposable pricking device is then used to prick the skin at each drop. The skin prick is not a shot and doesn’t cause bleeding. Placement of the tests takes just a few minutes and results are ready to read in about 10 minutes.

What is a Blood Test? Allergy blood testing is another way to identify substances causing your allergy symptoms. It measures the blood level of a type of antibody (called immunoglobulin E, or IgE) that the body may make in response to certain allergens.

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