



Allergy Testing and Treatment

Mercy Clinic Ear, Nose and Throat
6801 Rogers Avenue | 4th Floor
Fort Smith, AR 72903
479.274.3900

Mercy Clinic ENT provides allergen immunotherapy for patients 3 and up. Allergen immunotherapy is a form of treatment aimed at decreasing your sensitivity to allergens. These allergens are identified by allergy testing and are the substances that trigger your allergy symptoms when you are exposed to them.

Allergen immunotherapy involves giving small doses of the allergen to a patient either in the form of allergy shots or allergy drops over a period of several months. Allergen immunotherapy can lead to long-lasting relief of allergy symptoms after treatment is stopped. Allergy therapy is mixed specifically for each patient.

Immunotherapy is recommended for people who are allergic to an unavoidable plant or animal and take large amounts of medication to control symptoms but still have allergies. The decision to begin immunotherapy will be based on several factors including:

- Length of allergy season and severity of symptoms.
- How well medications and/or environmental controls control allergy symptoms.
- Desire to avoid long-term medication use.
- Time: Immunotherapy will require a significant time commitment.

Testing for Immunotherapy and injections are scheduled Monday through Thursday at Mercy Clinic Ear, Nose and Throat.

Cost may vary depending on insurance coverage. Some insurances may require a referral from a primary care provider. If insurances does not require a referral, call to schedule are appointment at 479.274.3900.

The benefits of immunotherapy, in terms of reduced allergy symptoms, can begin during the build-up phase but may take as long as 12 months on the maintenance dose. Improvement with immunotherapy may be progressive throughout the immunotherapy treatment period. Effectiveness of immunotherapy appears to be related to length of treatment and the dose of the allergen.