

Prick Testing Information Sheet

Dr David Orchard

Locations:

Barkers Road Dermatology, 433 Barkers Road, Kew. 3101. Parking is at the rear of the building.

Private Consulting Suites, Level 1, Suite 1.3, 48 Flemington Rd, Parkville. 3052 (next to Royal Children's Hospital). The best option for parking is in The Royal Children's Hospital car park.

The phone number for appointments at both locations is **(03) 9817 2422**.

Prick testing is a method we use to try and find out if your child may have allergies that are contributing to the development of his/her eczema. The procedure involves applying a tiny sample of a variety of foods and/or environmental allergens on to your child's skin (usually the back) followed by a very small prick on the skin. After 20 minutes, the skin is assessed for an allergic reaction that takes the form of a small hive.

Although less common, adults may also elect to have skin prick testing performed.

Preparation for Prick testing:

1. When you call for an appointment, please state that you wish to book specifically for **prick testing**. If not, a time may be given when Prick testing cannot be performed.
2. Please **do not give your child any anti-histamines for three days prior to the test**. Examples of anti-histamine medications include Phenergan, Alerius, Vallergan, Zyrtec, Hismanal, Claratyne, Lorastyne, Teldane, Telfast, Polaramine, Periactin, Avil, Dilosyn and Zadine.
3. If your child is being breast fed, could you please also ensure that mum does not take anti-histamines for the three days prior to the test as well.
4. Please **do not apply topical steroids creams to the skin on the morning of the test**. Examples of steroid creams include Elocon, Novasone, Diprosone, Advantan, Betnovate, Celestone, Aristocort, Sigmacort, Egocort, Eleuphrat and Kenacombe.

The testing process will take approximately one hour. Our nurse will perform the test and Dr Orchard will discuss the test results with you on the day of the appointment.

To obtain a Medicare rebate and so that Dr Orchard can communicate with your local Doctor, you will require a referral. Please bring the referral with you on the day of the appointment.

Your appointment date and time.....

Location.....