

Coronavirus Safety Precautions at The Allergy & Asthma Doctors

The Allergy & Asthma Doctors take the safety of our patients and staff seriously. We have put in place the following measures to ensure that our offices provide a safe environment for our patients and staff:

1. All patients and staff are always required to wear masks in our offices except when performing breathing tests and when performing other activities that require masks to be temporarily removed.
2. It is recommended that all patients wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer prior to entering our offices. We ask each patient to disinfect their hands at the check in and check out windows. If you do not have your own pen to use, we ask all patients to use a pen from the "clean" holder and then place it into the "dirty" pen holder for cleaning. To assist with the check in process, we ask all patients to fill out all required paperwork prior to their appointments. Patients will now check-in verbally at the front desk, stating your name and the reason for your visit.
3. All staff members are required to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer in between patients and throughout the day.
4. Our staff are not permitted to work if they have a fever or any new cold or cough symptoms. Temperatures will be taken daily prior to providing care for the day.
5. Patients are not permitted to enter our offices if they have chills, fever, muscle aches, new cold and cough or shortness of breath symptoms. This recommendation has been put in place to safeguard our patients and staff from potential COVID-19 exposure. Office visits can be modified into telemedicine visits for newly ill patients. Patients with any new symptoms listed above are asked to contact our office to arrange a telemedicine visit.
6. All patients will have their temperatures checked on entering our offices. Patients found to have fevers will be isolated from the other patients and staff and will be evaluated by our physicians.
7. To practice social distancing, we have spread out our seating in our waiting rooms and ask our patients to distance from each other; family members can sit close together. Patients will now check-in verbally at the front desk, stating your name and the reason for your visit. Once checked-in, patients may wait in their cars or in the hallway at certain offices until it is their turn for shots or office visits.
8. For patients who receive biologic therapies (Xolair, Nucala, Fasenra, or Dupixent), they can wait in their cars for 30 minutes after receiving injections instead of staying in the waiting room.
9. Allergy shots remain a first come, first served walk-in service. Please note that early morning, lunchtime, and the last hour of the day are the busiest time for shots. All patients on maintenance Immunotherapy may now extend the interval between injections to 28-30 days. For safety reasons, shot patients must remain in the office for 30 minutes following allergy injections.
10. Patients are asked to limit the number of family members who join them at their visits to minimize crowding of the waiting rooms. Spacing of chairs in the waiting room has been increased to promote social distancing. Please do not sit in a chair with an indication to not occupy.
11. Common surfaces (e.g., countertops, phones, doorknobs, keyboards, respiratory equipment, exam tables, blood pressure cuffs) are disinfected throughout the day and at the beginning and end of each day. Office entry doors will be open, where possible, to decrease contact exposure. All exam-room surfaces and equipment are disinfected after each patient encounter.
12. Physicians and nurses are required to practice good hand hygiene before and after each patient visit. This includes wearing gloves during examinations that require unmasking and contact.

For the most updated information on COVID-19, please see the CDC website @ www.cdc.gov