

Allergy Immunotherapy is one part of the total allergy treatment program that we use at Pennsylvania Allergy Associates. The other components (medications and changing your environment) compliment the immunotherapy treatments to relieve your symptoms.

Allergy Immunotherapy makes you tolerant to your inhaled allergies by building your own immune system against your allergies.

Allergy Immunotherapy treats you with exactly what you are allergic to ***BUT*** we must start with low doses and build up your tolerance to the injections. Usually, injections are once a week but they can be as frequent as every three (3) days. You can change the day you usually get your shots. Using the same day each week makes it easier to remember your treatment.

Because you are allergic to the **Allergy Immunotherapy**, you might get a local reaction at the site of the injections. **It is important to let us know of any reactions including redness, swelling, pain, or any other symptom you might think is related to the injections.** If you receive your shots outside of our offices, let us know of any reactions!

Your **Allergy Immunotherapy** takes about six (6) months to take effect. Usually it takes 12 months of therapy to be approximately 70 percent better and 90 percent better after 24 months of immunotherapy. Dr. Rudolph will see you at least once a year to measure your progress and make adjustments to your treatment. Our office will contact you when your annual appointment is due.

Your symptoms may return during periods of high allergy exposures such as spring grass pollens or August ragweed pollen. Make an appointment to see Dr. Rudolph for a "Booster Injection" which will supplement your treatment and relieve your symptoms in 24 hours.

Your **Allergy Immunotherapy** will be once a week until all your symptoms are gone, you no longer need any medications to control your allergies, and your allergy follow up tests are negative.

Remember, **Allergy Immunotherapy** is highly effective, but your body can change, your allergies can change, and other medical changes occur. Make an appointment with Dr. Rudolph if your symptoms worsen or you are not pleased with the control of your symptoms.