

# allergist

Find an allergist. Find *relief*.



## FAQ for Parents on Allergists, Allergies and Asthma

### Why should I have my child see an allergist?

Allergies and asthma are serious diseases. Misdiagnosis and mistreatment can be dangerous, even deadly so it's important to see the best trained specialist.

Board-certified allergists are the most qualified to perform allergy tests and treat allergic disease effectively. Allergists:

- Treat more than just symptoms
- Can identify the source of suffering and develop a treatment plan to eliminate symptoms
- Provide the most cost-effective care and best outcomes



### What are some signs that my child's asthma or allergies are not under control?

If your child has been diagnosed with asthma and allergies and is not able to focus in class, participate in all activities or misses school because of symptoms, the condition is not under control. Your child could benefit from seeing an allergist.

### How does allergies and asthma affect the quality of life for my child?

If properly diagnosed and treated, allergies and asthma should not affect your child's quality of life. Your child should not miss any school or activities, be able to feel good, be active all day and sleep well at night. No one should accept less.

### Allergists often recommend allergy shots. Is this safe?

Allergists are specialists in administering allergy shots, or immunotherapy. While the shots do require a time commitment, they don't hurt and are very safe. Allergy shots can actually alter the progression of allergies, eliminate symptoms, and prevent asthma and the development of other allergies.

## It's more expensive for my child to see an allergist. Is it really worth the cost?

Since an allergist is an expert in determining the appropriate tests and most effective treatment options for your child's condition, your child may not only feel better, but you also may end up saving money. In fact, research shows that asthma patients under the care of an allergist have better outcomes at less cost because of fewer emergency care visits, fewer hospitalizations, reduced lengths of hospital stays, fewer days missed from work or school, increased productivity, greater satisfaction with their care and an improved quality of life.

## How do I find more information on asthma and allergies?

Visit the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology's website, [AllergyAndAsthmaRelief.org](http://AllergyAndAsthmaRelief.org) for valuable information, tools to use and resources on asthma and allergies.

