

You have been referred to the Allergy clinic for skin prick testing. This is a simple test where potential allergens (e.g. dust mite or pollen) are introduced to your skin to determine possible reactions. This may allow for a diagnosis and an appropriate management plan of allergies.

Please take note of the information below to ensure you can proceed with skin prick testing.

What to expect

- A history and examination is performed by the allergy clinic doctor and skin prick testing to a range of environmental allergens may be performed if appropriate.
- Not all individuals or allergic reactions are suitable for skin prick testing, the clinic doctor may also decide to request blood tests, an x-ray, CT scan, or a lung function test. This will occur after your visit at an external provider.

What to bring

- A referral from your specialist as this is a Medicare bulk billed clinic. (Please note, specialist referrals are only valid for 3 months.)
- Your Medicare card.
- Any current medications you are taking, including vitamins, natural therapy products, medical creams.
- A written list with details of your symptoms or allergic reactions.
- If you have them please bring:
 - results of previous allergy tests, blood results or scans (chest or sinuses)
 - letters from other relevant specialists
 - any photos of your rashes or swellings.

Special instructions

- Stop taking any antihistamine tablets or hayfever relief (eg Claratyne, Zyrtec, Telfast, Aerius, Phenergan, Polaramine) for 5 days before your appointment as these interfere with allergy tests.
- If you are unable to stop your tablets due to the severity of your symptoms, you are still able to attend the clinic as we may use allergy blood tests as an alternative.
- Do not stop any other medications, such as your asthma inhalers, steroid creams, anti-hypertensives or nasal sprays.



How long does it take?

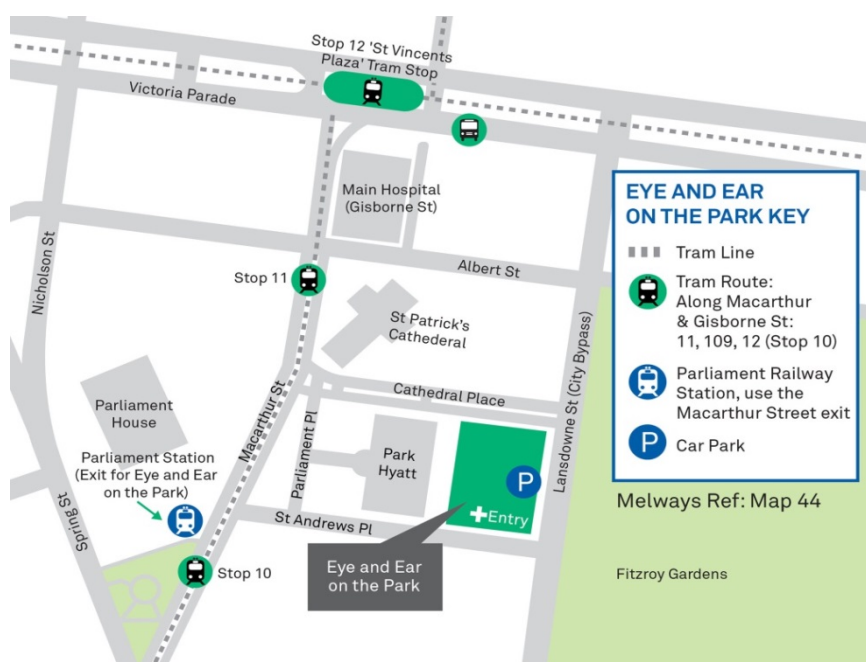
We recommend you allow a minimum of 2 hours for your entire visit. The initial consultation usually takes at least an hour, however if additional testing is performed the overall clinic visit can take longer.

Where to find us

Location: Eye and Ear on the Park, 2 St Andrews Place, East Melbourne.

Check in at: Clinic D, Ground Floor – Outpatient Clinics.

Please note this appointment is **not** at the main hospital.



Contact us

If you need to cancel or change your appointment please contact the Outpatient Booking Unit on (03) 9929 8500.

Disclaimer This document describes the generally accepted practice at the time of publication only. It is only a summary of clinical knowledge regarding this area. The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital makes no warranty, express or implied, that the information contained in this document is comprehensive. They accept no responsibility for any consequence arising from inappropriate application of this information. The Allergy Clinic #220 | Owner: Specialist Clinics | Last published: 06/04/17 | Next review: 06/04/18

