

In order for the patch testing results to be valid, there are a few requirements:

- Patch sites which have been marked with permanent marker must remain dry. Therefore, you may not shower during the first 48 hours. After visit 2, you may shower.
- The patches must remain firmly attached to your skin for the first 48 hours. Exercise and other activities which may loosen the patches should be avoided.
- Avoid friction or rubbing of the patch tests as this may also cause them to become loose. Should the patch test or adhesive tape become loose, apply additional tape to the patch test so that it remains in contact with your skin.
- Avoid scratching the areas where redness and itching appear as this can interfere with the results. If you experience itching, you may take an antihistamine.
- Do not expose the test area to the sun or an ultraviolet lamp.
- Certain medications may interfere with the results. A careful medication history will take place during the initial evaluation. Also, do not use any topical creams or ointments on your back for 5 days preceding the patch testing.
- Occasionally, some patients have vigorous reactions to some substances. This may result in local discomfort which can be treated at the follow-up appointment.
- Rarely, you may observe a reaction at the test site as late as 3 weeks after your visit. If this happens, please report it, as it may be important.

Your patch testing is scheduled for:

Application Visit: _____

First Reading: _____

Second Reading: _____