

## Immunotherapy Parent Information



Subcutaneous immunotherapy may be ordered for seasonal allergies, i.e. grass pollen. It is recommended that treatment starts at the end of pollen season (eg. from the beginning of March). For perennial allergic allergies, i.e. house dust mite, treatment can commence though out the year. The product that we use at RCH is called Alxoid and is manufactured in Spain by Immunotek.

Immunotherapy cannot be administered to any patient who has active asthma, is unwell or has a fever. Please contact the Department of Allergy and Immunology on 9345 4333 if you suspect your child is unwell. Please continue all of your child's prescribed medications (such as asthma medication and nasal sprays)

For patients older than 7 years, Spirometry (breathing test) should be performed prior to admission at A3 in speciality clinics. This is to be reviewed by the supervising doctor or nurse prior to treatment.

Please give your child an antihistamine 30 minutes prior to their appointment

Please allow a minimum of 2 to 4 hours for your appointment.

Your child will have 2 or 4 injections at their first appointment at RCH, then 1 or 2 injections at RCH 1 month later. Then monthly injections at your GP

When immunotherapy is completed at RCH a letter will be sent to your GP as well as a copy for you to retain.

Review appointments in clinic at 3 months, then 6 months then yearly.

### **Cost: (approximate)**

\$558.00 per year for 1 injection

\$1116.00 per year for 2 injections

Treatment should continue for 3-5 years

Immunotherapy is performed at RCH on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings.

No strenuous physical activity (such as sports training or matches) should be performed on the afternoon/evening of the injections.