

Dear Referring Provider:

It has been identified that your patient has had a previous allergic reaction to contrast media.

Patients who require intravenous contrast media for an imaging study who have previously had a confirmed mild or moderate allergic event to the same class of contrast media must be pre-medicated.

The ordering provider is responsible for ordering pre-medication.

A consultation between the radiologist and referring provider is required to provide direction for patients with known severe reactions. Documentation of this consult must be included on the requisition.

Mild allergic reaction: no more than 1-2 hives, nasal congestion, sneezing and/or scratchy throat that does not progress to more severe reactions after 15 minutes of observation.

Moderate allergic reaction: 3 or more hives, extensive rash, facial/oral swelling, throat tightness or hoarseness, wheezing.

Severe allergic reaction: shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, unresponsiveness, anaphylactic shock, respiratory or cardiac arrest.

Similar class contrast agent: same elemental ingredient (ie. iodine based vs gadolinium based).

If your patient appears without being pre-medicated, they will be rebooked to a later date and your office will be notified.

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| Adult Patients (or patients weighing greater than 50 kg) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50 mg prednisone PO 13, 7 and 1 hour before the injection 10 mg cetirizine OR 50 mg diphenhydrAMINE PO within 1 hour of the injection |
| ACCELERATED regimen *** Adult patients (or patients weighing greater than 50 kg) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 40 mg methylprednisolone IV 4 hours before injection 10 mg cetirizine OR 50 mg diphenhydrAMINE PO or IV within 1 hour of the injection |
| Pediatric patients (or patients weighing less than 50 kg) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prednisolone OR Prednisone 0.7 mg/kg (do not exceed 50 mg) PO 13, 7 and 1 hour before the injection Greater than 6 months of age: cetirizine PO within 1 hour of the injection (use age based dosing) Less than 6 months of age: diphenhydrAMINE 1 mg/kg PO within 1 hour of injection (do not exceed 50 mg) |
| ACCELERATED regimen *** Pediatric patients (or patients weighing less than 50 kg) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methylprednisolone 1 mg/kg (do not exceed 40 mg) OR Hydrocortisone 1 mg/kg IV 4 hours before injection Cetirizine (age based dosing) PO OR DiphenhydrAMINE 1 mg/kg IV (do not exceed 50 mg) within 1 hour of injection |

***** The accelerated regimen will only be prescribed if the ordering provider determines that the 13 hour regimen would cause an adverse delay in care and treatment.**

Sincerely,

Medical Imaging Department @ WRHN