

Common Sense in

ALLERGY & ASTHMA



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*Individually customized allergy testing,
serum, and treatment plans*

POISON IVY ALLERGY: Simplified testing and treatment

Four years of experience with our poison ivy allergy vaccines now lets us reduce numbers of office visits, skin tests and shots. If you aren't taking medicines that block testing we can take your history, apply patch tests and order lab tests at the same time. We can identify most patients likely to respond to the vaccine at follow-up a week later. If you're a likely good responder, we can give your first allergy shot at that time.

We can treat most patients with two or three allergy shots at two week intervals, with re-testing 4 months later to measure loss of sensitivity.

Protection has lasted at least 9 months and in one patient more than two years. With this experience we will now offer re-testing and booster shots every 9 months after initial treatment.

Patch test reactions can peak any time from 2 to 7 days after testing. For the most accurate grading you should have a cell phone or other digital camera able to take sharp, close-up pictures of your patch test sites.

Dr. Coifman is the only South Jersey allergist chosen by each of the of the two national allergy scientific societies to teach in its national meeting continuing medical education programs for other allergists.