

Introduction

Food intolerance is much more common than food allergy and the two should not be confused. A food intolerance occurs when your body has trouble digesting a certain food. This is usually a slow process and can develop many hours after you have eaten the problem food. Food allergy is a rapid and potentially dangerous condition when your immune system reacts to a specific food. The effect of a food intolerance should never be underestimated as its impact on sufferers can be significant, severely impacting on their ability to live normal healthy lives. Food intolerance can be the cause of a whole series of disorders.

Why do I need this test?

By finding out what foods you are intolerant to, you can make important decisions on your diet by removing the foods from your diet and then slowly re-introducing them to build up tolerance to those foods. This could improve your health and wellbeing.

What symptoms are associated with food intolerances?

Many people with food intolerance experience more than one symptom. Symptoms can often be vague and the root cause of the problem (food) is not always correctly diagnosed. Sufferers often complain of seeming to be in a 'fog', feeling bloated and being tired all the time. Some people will have one symptom such as a headache whilst others will be unfortunate to experience irritable bowel syndrome, migraine and skin or respiratory conditions. Symptoms don't always develop straight after consumption and can take up to 3 days to cause symptoms making detection very difficult. Other typical symptoms include bloating, stomach cramps, diarrhoea and constipation.

Albumen	Com	Peanut
Almond	Cow's milk	Pear
Anchovy	Crustaceans mix	Pepper
Apple	Cucumber	Pineapple
Apricot	Eggplant	Plum
Artichoke	French bean	Pork
Asparagus	Garlic	Potato
Baking powder	Grapefruit	Pumpkin
Banana	Grapes	Rabbit
Barley	Hake	Rice
Bean	Hazelnut	Rye
Beef	Honey	Salmon
Berries mix	Kiwi	Sheep's milk
Brewer's yeast	Kola nut	Sole
Broccoli	Lamb	Soy
Cabbage	Lemon	Spinach
Carrot	Lentil	Strawberry
Cauliflower	Malt	Sugar cane
Celery	Mandarin	Sunflower
Cephalopods mix	Marjoram	Sweet pepper
Chard	Melon	Tea
Cherry	Mushrooms mix	Tomato
Chicken	Mustard	Trout
Chickpea	Oats	Tuna
Cinnamon	Olive	Turkey
Clam	Onion	Walnut
Cocoa	Orange	Watermelon
Coconut	Parsely	Wheat
Cod	Pea	Yogurt
Coffee	Peach	Yolk

Pack contents

- ❖ 1 test card
- ❖ 1 antiseptic wipe
- ❖ 2 lancets
- ❖ Customer Information form
- ❖ Instructions for use
- ❖ Pre-printed padded return envelope
- ❖ Lab Fee Payment Form (for Postal Packs only)

If any of the above items are missing from this pack, please contact us urgently.

Precautions

1. Carefully read these instructions before taking the test.
2. Keep away from children.
3. The kit shall be used by adults or under the supervision of an adult.
4. The lancet should be only used once and never used on more than one person.
5. Do not use the kit after the expiry date.
6. Store at room temperature.
7. In vitro diagnostic kit for external use.
8. After use, all components must be disposed of carefully.

Test Procedure

Since intolerance is dose-related, it is recommended not to change your normal diet habit in the days before taking the sample, as it could incorrectly detect intolerance to a specific food / additive due to the excessive consumption of a food which is normally only eaten occasionally.

Open the foil containing the test sample card and write your name and the date you took the sample.



Wash hands with hot water and soap and dry them well. Using gentle pressure, massage the finger from which the sample is to be taken (the middle or ring finger is the best) by gently working the thumb of your free hand up to the tip of the finger.



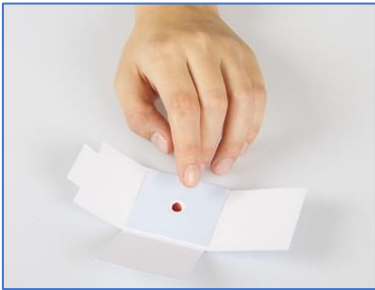
Take the safety lancet holding the body and twist off the protective cap until you feel it has been separated from the device. Don't pull, just twist.



Press the lancet very firmly against the soft pad of your finger tip - this releases a very short needle, enough only to prick the skin. It is important to press the finger pricker firmly against the fingertip otherwise the skin will not be punctured.



Holding the punctured site downwards, with palm of hand facing upwards, continue to gently massage the finger until a large drop of blood appears. See picture below.



Bring the blood drop to the card and allow the drop to be absorbed into the circle. Press your finger gently onto the card to get as much blood absorbed as possible. It is important that you fill the whole of the circle. If you do not supply enough blood, then the lab will be unable to obtain a result and you will need to buy a new test.

Make sure you **place the card back into the foil pouch** and then dispose of all the used materials.



Complete each field on the enclosed form(s) and send it to us with your sample using the provided pre-printed envelope.

F.A.Qs

How long is the sample viable for and when will I receive my results?

The blood sample will remain viable for 12-14 days so you should send the sample back to us as soon as possible after it is obtained. If you are located outside the UK, then please ensure you send the sample back using an expedited service so that we receive it within a maximum of 7 days of the sample being obtained. If your sample is not viable then you will need to pay £20 for a re-test. Once received, your sample is then analysed by a specialist laboratory in Italy that will identify those foods that react and cause an intolerance. Your results will be emailed/posted to you approximately 5-7 days after receipt of your blood sample.

What treatments are available for food intolerances?

In adults and children, the best treatment for food allergy or intolerance is completely avoiding the food causing you the allergy or intolerance. As children get older many of their intolerances disappear, but until you are sure of this, avoidance is the only truly successful treatment.

Is it possible that food intolerances can cause a wide range of disorders?

Yes, food intolerances cause a state of inflammation that can spread to reach many organs. In addition, all inflammatory conditions may worsen due to ongoing Intolerance.

Is this test suitable for everyone?

It is advised that you shouldn't take the test if any of the following apply:

- 1) When there's an alteration of the immune system, due to a disease such as autoimmune diseases, immunodeficiencies, acute infections, cancers, or due to a therapy (e.g. steroid therapies or anti-rejection therapies).
- 2) If you are taking medications having a direct effect on the immunological system (cortisone, steroids, antibiotics, anaesthetics, lithium, lead, growth factors, immune suppressants, anti-histamine etc.) and if under vaccines treatment.

DO NOT PERFORM THE TEST FOR AT LEAST 7 DAYS AFTER YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR MEDICATION.

- 3) Children under 36 months of age shouldn't perform the test.
- 4) People suffering from evident eating disorders such as anorexia or bulimia should perform the test only under medical advice.

If I am intolerant to a food should I eliminate it from my diet forever?

No, intolerance to a food can be of three different levels: First (or Mild) Second (or Moderate) and Third (or Severe). The test result may be specific to what degree your intolerance is for certain food. Together with the outcome of the test, you will be given specific guidance for its gradual re-introduction.

Storage

This test should be stored at room temperature. Do not expose to direct sunlight.

Your foil pouch will have a number on the outside. This is your unique reference number which should also appear on your customer information form. All numbers should be exactly the same as the one below:

If the numbers are different then please contact us. You should keep these instructions with your number on after you have posted your sample.

If you have any further questions, you can contact our customer service team using the contact details below. Please make sure you have your reference number (given above) to hand if you do contact us. Without this we will be unable to give you any information about your test.

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