

Cycle 2- Allergies
2209 - All About Allergy Shots
SCRIPT

(1)

WILLIAM CRAWFORD, MD:

Allergy shots are a great alternative for patients in whom the medications aren't the answer. And allergy shots are a gradual, long term approach. We're injecting you with small amounts of the things that you're allergic to. We know from experience that we have to inject you with a certain amount for them to work well. If we give you too little they don't work. If we give you too much you might have an allergic reaction, because these are things that you're allergic to. So we definitely know that there's a certain dose that we would like to give you that we know is likely to work well. But that's a pretty big dose. We can't just give you that right away. You might have an allergic reaction.

(2)

MADLYN FERNSTROM:

Allergy shots work by making the immune system behave more like the immune system of someone who does not have allergies. Once the allergy shots have taken effect, patients are much less likely to have allergy symptoms when exposed to the things they are allergic to.

(3)

JOHN CHASE, MD:

So some people just absolutely know that they're not going to use those medications. And, you know, I have to take that into account. And I'm willing to start shots on those patients.

(4)

YANA SAMARASENA, MD:

The premise of allergy shots or allergy immunotherapy is to slowly desensitize the immune system from having the reaction to the specific trigger. We know that allergy injections work very well for nasal allergies, for asthma that is triggered by allergies, for insect stings-- reactions and in some cases for eczema.

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