

Allergy

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- Allergy is the hypersensitive response of the immune system to certain substances present in the environment.
- It is caused by substances called allergens.
- Allergens can be dust, pollen, drugs and foods.
- They gain entry into the body through skin, mouth and nose.

Symptoms depend on the type of allergen:

- Symptoms of allergy include sneezing, sniffing, abdominal pain, bloating, vomiting, diarrhoea, itchy skin, asthma, skin reactions, bronchio-constriction, swelling and low blood pressure.

Common allergies are:

- Hay fever
- Asthma
- Hives

Allergies can be diagnosed by:

- Skin prick test
- Blood testing