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IMMUNOTHERAPY COMPARISON (7/13)

	Subcutaneous Immunotherapy (SCIT)	Sublingual Immunotherapy (SLIT)
Synonyms	Allergy shots	Allergy drops
Medication Cost	\$1600/year	\$720/year
Additional Costs	Transportation costs to the office and time commitment (20 minutes wait in office after weekly shots.)	Not for inhalant allergens.
Insurance Coverage	Yes, yet still responsible for deductible and co-payments.	No
Risk	Yes, there is a risk of a injection site localized reaction, asthma flare-up or anaphylaxis.	No
Pain	May be 1-4 shots which can cause pain.	None
Location of Treatment	Office only	Home
Frequency of Administration	Once a week initially during escalation, then with decreasing frequency in subsequent years	Three times a day placing a single drop under the tongue for 30 seconds, then swallow.
Duration of Treatment	Usually 5 years	Usually 5 years
Appropriate for infants or young children (<6 years old), or patient's with severe asthma, high sensitivity, difficult work or school schedules, live a far distance from the office,	Not in general, however exceptions do exist.	Yes
Repeated Testing During Treatment	Rarely, except if having atypical reactions	Mold checks every 3 months during escalation and all other non-mold once concentrate reached.
Pre-seasonal Dosing Available	No	Yes, @ \$180 additional per vial.
Compliance	30-50% Patient dependent.	80-97% Patient dependent.
FDA Approval	Yes	It is an FDA approved medication using an off labeled route of administration.
Effective	Yes	Yes *
Experimental	No	No

* Concluded to be effective by World Health Organization, American Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology, American College Academy of Allergy Asthma and Immunology, Cochrane Collaboration