# Penicillin Allergy

All drug-allergies must be specified on medication charts (with the patient's reaction)



Patient reports penicillin allergy or penicillin allergy recorded in notes

## STEP 2: Assess the history of the penicillin allergy to determine risk of type 1 hypersensitivity

Were any of these features reported following a dose of a penicillin antibiotic: collapse, facial/throat swelling, breathing difficulties, itchy rash?

STEP 1: is there a history suggestive of type 4 hypersensitivity reaction?

Were any of the following factors present:

- Rash with blistering?
- Oral or genital ulceration or blistering?
- Rash associated by a severe systemic illness requiring admission to hospital?

No

If YES to ANY - STOP and DO NOT administer a penicillin or other beta-lactam antibiotic to the patient

No

Low probability of type 1 hypersensitivity reaction Symptoms typical of intolerance rather than allergy: i.e. nausea and vomiting, diarrhoea

**Uncertain** 

Do any of the following criteria apply?

Reaction occurred less than 10 years ago or Patient was admitted to hospital or required urgent medical care as a result of the reaction or Reaction definitely occurred within an hour

**IF YES** and within one hour then **HIGH PROBABILITY** of type 1 hypersensitivity reaction.

Yes

Avoid penicillin antibiotics and do not give other classes of beta-lactam antibiotic without specialist review.

Overall risk of immediate allergy low. Discuss with senior medical staff.

# Contraindicated

No

### Antibiotics to be avoided in penicillin allergy

Amoxicillin

Benzylpenicillin

Yes

Co-amoxiclav (Augmentin®)

Flucloxacillin

Phenoxymethylpenicillin (penicillin V)

Piperacillin / Tazobactam (Tazocin®)

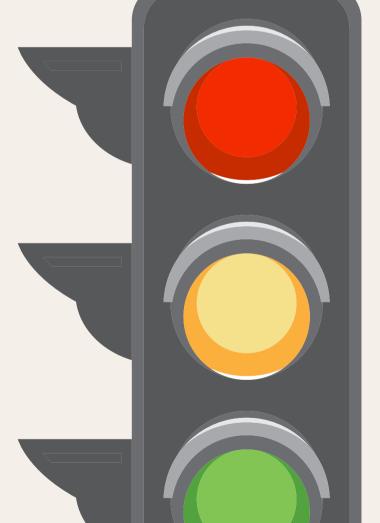
Pivmecillinam

Temocillin

Ticarcillin (Timentin®)

## 1st generation cephalosporins

Cefradine, Cefalexin



# **Caution**

Use with caution if nonsevere allergy (e.g. minor rash after 72 hours)

#### Antibiotics to be used in caution in non-severe penicillin allergy (not an exhaustive list)

#### Other Cephalosporins:

Cefixime, Cefotaxime, Ceftazidime, Ceftriaxone, Ceftobiprole, Cefuroxime, Ceftazidime/Avibactam (Zavicefta®), Ceftolozane/Tazobactam (Zerbaxa®)

#### Other beta-lactam antibiotics

Aztreonam, Ertapenem, Imipenem, Meropenem/vaborbactam (Vaborem®)

# Considered safe



## Antibiotics safe in penicillin allergy (not an exhaustive list)

Amikacin Levofloxacın Azithromycin Linezolid Ciprofloxacin Metronidazole Clarithromycin Nitrofurantoin Clindamycin Ofloxacin Rifampicin Colistin Co-trimoxazole Sodium Fusidate Daptomycin Teicoplanin Doxycycline Tetracycline Erythromycin Tigecycline Fosfomycin Tobramycin Fidaxomicin Trimethoprim Gentamicin Vancomycin

MS: WLS1121