

Supplementary file

Exploring penicillin allergy labelled patients - an antibiotic stewardship patient safety project.

This survey will inform a wider in-depth five year antibiotic stewardship project intended to improve patient care across the organisation. We would like to explore healthcare staff views and understanding of the potential impact of incorrectly labelled penicillin allergy status on patient care. If you are unsure of any answer, please provide your best guess response.

1. Tick your professional grade

Junior doctor

Senior doctor (Associate specialist/Consultant)

Nurse/midwife band 7 or above

Nurse/midwife band 6 or below

Pharmacist

Pharmacy technician

2. From your knowledge and/or experience how many patients in this hospital claim to have a penicillin allergy? *Tick the one that applies*

Less than 5%

More than 5% but less than 10%

More than 10% but less than 20%

More than 20% but less than 30%

More than 30% but less than 40%

More than 40% but less than 50%

More than 50%

3. Have you ever thought that a patient who believes they have an actual penicillin allergy is in fact mistaken and does not have such an allergy?

Yes frequently

Yes occasionally

No never

4. Have you ever discussed with such patients that they may not ACTUALLY be penicillin allergic?

Yes

No

I am not in a position to have this discussion

5. If you have been involved in the care of a patient who MISTAKENLY believed they were penicillin allergic but did not discuss this with the patient, why is that? *(Tick all that apply)*

It is not my role to discuss this with patients

I have come across such a patient but feel I do not have the necessary knowledge to explain about allergies and reactions

I have come across such a patient but feel I do not have the necessary communication skills to explain about allergies and reactions

I have come across such a patient but feel I do not have the necessary time to explain about allergies and reactions

Patients are unlikely to be convinced by my explanation that they do not have a penicillin allergy

Other – free text comment

6. Have you observed any instance where a patient with a documented penicillin allergy was inadvertently administered penicillin and went on to experience an adverse reaction

Yes

No

I am not in a position to have observed this

7. If you answered yes to Q6, and thinking about the most recent instance, how serious was any resulting reaction?

Can't remember

Minor reaction

Moderate reaction

Severe reaction

8. A proportion of patients who claim to be allergic to penicillin, actually do not have a true allergy but perhaps had a minor adverse drug reaction such as diarrhoea and are therefore labelled inappropriately as allergic. Do you perceive having an incorrect penicillin allergy status to be (*tick the one answer that applies*)

Not a problem at all

A minor inconvenience for healthcare staff and not worth worrying about

A problem that it would be good to find a solution to as long as it was easy for healthcare staff to implement

A significant problem that should have lots of time and effort devoted to resolving

9. What percentage of those patients who claim to have a penicillin allergy could safely be given a penicillin-type antibiotic without the patient coming to any serious harm? *Tick the one that applies*

None

Up to 10%

Over 10% to 20%

Over 20% to 50%

Over half

10. Validated, evidence based questions could be asked of patients who claim to be penicillin allergic to help decide if a penicillin-type antibiotic could be safely prescribed and administered to the patient. If such a process was approved by the Trust, how do you perceive the risk to the patient?

Tick one answer that applies

I would feel very confident because the process of removing an allergy status has been approved by the Trust

Despite this being an approved Trust process, I would still feel a little apprehensive

Despite this being an approved Trust process, I would feel very worried about what might happen to the patient

I would not wish this process to be followed

11. Which, if any of the following, are true of patients with penicillin allergy labels when compared to those that do not have such a penicillin allergy labels? Those with a penicillin allergy label (*Tick all that apply*)

Have increased risk of *clostridium difficile* associated diarrhoea

Are prescribed antibiotics that cost less

Have lower re-admission rates to hospital

Have higher incidence of treatment failure

Have increased inpatient length of stay

Have similar rates of mortality

Have increased rates of multi-drug resistant infections

Experience less antibiotic side effects

Thank you for completing the survey