

Penicillin Allergy De-labelling Program

Positive Result

This leaflet will provide you with information about the result of your penicillin allergy test.

What does a positive test result mean?

A positive test means that you have had a reaction to a penicillin antibiotic. Your medical team think the reaction shows an allergy.

Is it safe for me to take penicillin now?

No. We recommend that you continue to avoid penicillin antibiotics. These include: amoxicillin, ampicillin, co-amoxiclav (Augmentin), flucloxacillin, penicillin V and many others.

What happens next?

We will send your GP a letter describing the test you had and that you had a positive result. We will ask them to update your GP record and confirm the penicillin allergy label.

Keep your results letter safe – you may need it for future reference or medical appointments.

Consider wearing a MedicAlert ID or jewellery – this helps alert healthcare professionals and others to your penicillin allergy in case of an emergency.

What should I do if I develop new symptoms after the test has finished?

If you notice any new symptoms after your test - such as a rash, itching, swelling, breathing difficulties, or anything else that feels severe or worrying:

- **Seek medical advice straight away.**
- You can contact the hospital doctor who carried out your test, your GP, NHS 111, or go to A&E if your symptoms are serious.
- It's also important to let your GP know about any new symptoms so your medical records can be updated accordingly.

What should I do next time I have an infection?

If you develop an infection, your GP or hospital doctor will assess whether you need antibiotics. If antibiotics are required, you can let them know you have a penicillin allergy and you had a test to confirm this. Penicillin antibiotics should not be used. This will be on your medical records in the hospital and at your GP practice.