

## Antibiotics and Penicillin Allergy

### \*SEVERE PENICILLIN ALLERGY:

Normally within 1 hour (up to 12 hours)

Anaphylaxis  
Angioedema  
Urticular rash/pruritus  
Wheezing/stridor

### \*\*Non- severe penicillin allergy:

Normally after 24 hours

Maculopapular/morbilliform rash  
Serum sickness (fever, rash, arthralgia, glomerulonephritis)

### CONTRA- INDICATED

Avoid in severe\*  
and non-severe\*\*  
penicillin allergy

#### Amoxicillin

**Co-amoxiclav** (Augmentin®) = Amoxicillin + Clavulanic acid

#### Flucloxacillin

**Penicillin G** (Benzylpenicillin)

**Penicillin V** (Phenoxymethylenicillin)

**Piperacillin + Tazobactam** (Tazocin®)

Individuals with a severe\* allergy to penicillin **SHOULD NOT** receive a penicillin, cephalosporin or another Beta-lactam antibiotic.

Individuals with a non-severe\*\* penicillin allergy **SHOULD NOT** receive a penicillin but cephalosporins, carbapenems and other beta-lactams can be used for these patients with **CAUTION** as the risk of cross sensitivity is low

### CAUTION

Avoid in severe\*  
Penicillin allergy

#### All cephalosporins including:

|             |             |            |
|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Cephalexin  | Cefixime    | Cefotaxime |
| Ceftazidime | Ceftriaxone | Cefuroxime |

#### All carbapenems including:

Ertapenem  
Imipenem + Cilastatin  
Meropenem

#### Other beta-lactams:

Aztreonam (may be used with caution in severe penicillin allergy – discuss with microbiology)

### CONSIDERED SAFE

|                 |                |                 |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Amikacin        | Erythromycin   | Rifampicin      |
| Azithromycin    | Fosfomycin     | Sodium Fusidate |
| Chloramphenicol | Gentamicin     | Teicoplanin     |
| Ciprofloxacin   | Levofloxacin   | Tetracycline    |
| Clarithromycin  | Linezolid      | Tigecycline     |
| Clindamycin     | Metronidazole  | Trimethoprim    |
| Colistin        | Nitrofurantoin | Tobramycin      |
| Co-Trimoxazole  | Norfloxacin    | Vancomycin      |
| Doxycycline     | Ofloxacin      |                 |