Adult patient reports penicillin allergy or penicillin allergy recorded in notes

STEP 1

Does the patient have any of the following?

- Medically unstable (NEWS ≥ 2)
- Pregnant
- Uncontrolled asthma (PEFR < 80% normal)
- Severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Unstable coronary artery disease
- Severe aortic stenosis
- Unable to give informed consent

YES

If YES to ANY

DO NOT administer a penicillin or other beta-lactam antibiotic to the patient

NO

STEP 2

Take a detailed history of the penicillin allergy

Does the history suggest a non-allergic reaction? i.e. allergy is a side effect e.g. (nausea) or already given penicillin since the 'allergy' was documented.

If yes patient can be de-labelled instantly. If No move onto STEP 3

STEP 3

Risk assess the patient using the PEN-FAST score

	Penicillin allergy test evaluation	Yes	No
F	**F**ive years or less since reaction	+2	0
A S	**A**naphylaxis/Angioedema **OR** **S**evere cutaneous adverse reaction (SCAR): ○ Stevens–Johnson syndrome / toxic epidermal necrolysis ○ Acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis ○ Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms ○ Any severe delayed rash with mucosal involvement	+2	0
T	**T**reatment required for allergy episode e.g. hospital admission, steroids, adrenaline	+1	0

PEN-FAST score 0

Very low probability of type 1 hypersensitivity reaction

Proceed to oral amoxicillin test

PEN-FAST score 1 or 2

Do the following criteria apply?

Vague history or allergy based on childhood event
AND
Patient did not require hospital or urgent medical care as a result of the reaction
AND
No documentation of anaphylaxis, severe skin reaction

PEN-FAST score ≥ 3

DO NOT administer a penicillin or other beta-lactam antibiotic to the patient

YES

Oral challenge possible as overall risk of immediate allergy is low.

Proceed to oral amoxicillin challenge **following senior review**

NO

Unsuitable for oral amoxicillin challenge without specialist review.

Consider **referral to a specialist** for consideration of detailed allergy assessment if available