

Penicillin Allergy & Pregnancy

This patient has a penicillin allergy which can be of relevance to her pregnancy or delivery. For example, penicillin and related antibiotics are preferred to prevent Group B Streptococcus infections in infants and to prevent surgical site infections after cesarean birth. Thus, penicillin allergy testing is recommended before or during pregnancy to determine whether it is safe to use penicillin. Of patients tested, 95% are determined to not have an allergy, so they have their allergy "cleared".

Regarding who needs penicillin allergy testing:

- Those with a mild or low risk allergy with nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, or headache do not need allergy testing and penicillin may be used.
- Those with a moderate risk allergy such as hives, swelling, or rash do need an allergy consultation for possible allergy testing.
- Those with a severe or high risk allergy with severe reactions such as Stevens Johnson syndrome or DRESS or anaphylaxis within the past 5 years, then alternative antibiotics are needed. If it has been more than 5 years or the reaction is uncertain, consider allergy consultation.

Based upon this patient's allergy, which is ***, penicillin allergy testing is *** recommended.

RECOMMENDATION:

-Penicillin allergy testing is *** recommended. Consultation to the allergy clinic has *** been made