

# Are you Allergic to Penicillin?

For more information visit  
[nationalpenicillinallergyday.com](http://nationalpenicillinallergyday.com)

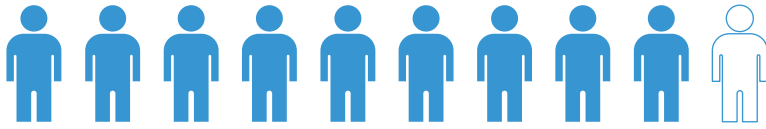
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# Did you know that

 Penicillin is the **most commonly reported drug allergy**

# 10

Most patients lose their penicillin allergy after **10 years**<sup>1</sup>



However, **nine out of 10 patients** reporting a penicillin allergy are not truly allergic



Broad-spectrum antibiotics may cause **treatment-resistant superbugs, like MRSA and C-Diff**

## When patients are penicillin allergy tested

# 98%

of hospitalized patients with a history of penicillin allergy would have a negative allergy test result<sup>2</sup>

Healthcare providers can prescribe less expensive, less toxic, and more **appropriate antibiotics**

## Know the facts and get tested

Be sure to ask your doctor if you are a candidate for penicillin allergy testing and discuss the benefits and risks of getting tested

<sup>1</sup> Joint Task Force on Practice Parameters representing the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology; American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology; Joint Council of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology; Drug allergy: an updated practice parameter. *Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol.* 2010 Oct; 105 (4): 259-273  
<sup>2</sup> Macy, Eric. Healthcare Use and Serious Infection prevalence associated with penicillin "allergy" in hospitalized patients: A Cohort Study. 2013 American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

## Let's Chat about Penicillin Allergy Testing

**Q:** I was told **I had a penicillin allergy when I was younger**. Is there a possibility that I might not have my allergy anymore?

**Q:** What do I do to **find out if I am still allergic** to penicillin?

**Q:** If my penicillin **allergy test comes back negative**, am I free to take penicillin again?

**A:** **Yes, this is very possible.** Nine out of 10 patients reporting a penicillin allergy are not actually allergic.

**A:** **It's easy!** Ask your pharmacist or physician to explain penicillin allergy testing. If you decide to get tested, it only takes about an hour.

**A:** If your test is negative, your healthcare provider will advise you on **whether or not you can receive penicillin antibiotics**. It's important to share your results with all healthcare providers as it can impact your antibiotic options.



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