

# Information for patients and carers

Penicillin Allergy Review Outcome: NOT ALLERGIC

## You agreed to have a review of your penicillin allergy status. We are pleased to advise that the symptoms described during questioning suggest that you DO NOT have a penicillin allergy.

The symptoms you have experienced in the past are likely a nonallergic side-effect of antibiotics, which are common. It is not certain that this will occur again so it should not prevent you taking penicillins in the future if you require them.

#### What does this mean for me?

You no longer need to tell medical teams looking after you that you are allergic to penicillin e.g. when you are taken into hospital. This means if you ever need treatment for an infection in future you will now be able to receive antibiotics which contain penicillin. If you had side effects, such as nausea, when you took penicillin in the past, you may still want to tell your doctor as they may give you medication to reduce these to take along with the antibiotics.

### What happens now?

A letter will be sent to your GP to let them know this and to ask them to remove 'penicillin allergy' from your medical record. We will also remove it from your hospital record.

Please let any other healthcare staff who may prescribe or give you medicines know that your allergy record has been updated. If you have any questions about the penicillin allergy test or your results and what that means, please speak to a member of the medical team looking after you.

#### Sources of further information

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk

www.nhs.uk www.accessable.co.uk www.patient.co.uk

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/veteran-aware

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust is not responsible for the content of external internet sites.

All our patient information leaflets are available on our website for patients to access and download:

www.lancsteachinghospitals.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets

Lancashire Teaching Hospitals is a smoke-free site. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on any of our premises, either inside or outside the buildings. Our staff will ask you about your smoking status when you come to hospital and will offer you support and advice about stopping smoking this will include Nicotine Replacement Therapy to help manage your symptoms of withdrawal and the opportunity to speak to a nurse or advisor from the specialist Tobacco and Alcohol Care Team. If you want to stop smoking, you can also contact Smokefree Lancashire on Freephone **08081962638**.

Please ask a member of staff if you would like help in understanding this information.

This information can be made available in large print, audio, Braille and in other languages.

Our patient information group review our leaflets regularly, if you feel you would like to feedback on this information or join our reading group please contact on email address:

patientexperienceandinvolvem@LTHTR.nhs.uk

**Department**: Microbiology

**Division**: Diagnostics & Clinical Support

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