

Conclusion. The success in de-labeling after formal evaluation is well established. Developing working relationships with allergists and encouraging providers to recognize often overlooked opportunities to refer to existing or newly established clinics is easily adopted by ASTs. In conjunction with screening, targeted education and referral to PCN-DE as a part of routine stewardship workflow has practical and immediate benefits.

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998. Challenging Penicillin Allergies: Pharmacist led program in a community hospital

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Session: 129. Antibiotic Stewardship: Allergy Evaluation

Friday, October 4, 2019: 12:15 PM

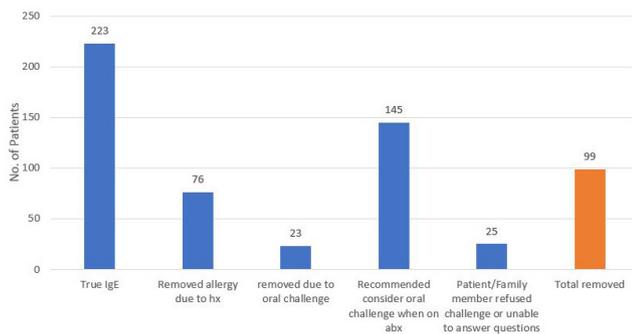
Background. Penicillin (PCN) allergy has been approximated to be reported in 10% of the United States population. Studies utilizing PCN skin testing have demonstrated that less than 1% of the population have a true PCN allergy. With increasing data on the negative consequences associated with a PCN allergy diagnosis, correctly identifying these patients is imperative. PCN skin testing has resulted in high rates of penicillin de-labeling; however, there are limited data evaluating the impact of a pharmacist-led PCN allergy evaluation with removal through utilization of oral challenges. The aim of this study was to utilize pharmacists to correctly identify those who are not penicillin-allergic to help decrease unnecessary use of broad-spectrum antibiotics and to optimize therapy.

Methods. This is a single-center, prospective review looking at a 10-month period of a pharmacist-led de-labeling project of patients with a PCN allergy. The electronic medical record system and decision support software were used to identify eligible patients. Adults ≥ 18 years of age with a PCN allergy were included. During the evaluation, pharmacists utilized a series of standardized questions which was reviewed with the infectious disease physician to classify the patient's allergy. Based on classification a protocol was followed that either led to the patient retaining their allergy, or removal. The primary objective is to evaluate the rate of removal of penicillin allergies. Secondary objectives reviewed removal rate of patients on active antibiotics, and evaluate how many were switched to β -lactam.

Results. A total of 492 patients with PCN allergies were interviewed by a pharmacist. Pharmacist de-labeled 99/492 (20%) PCN allergies. Of those patients, 23% were removed through oral challenge and 76% through patient history. There were 175 patients on active antibiotics and 52/175 (30%) had their allergies removed. Finally, 36/52 (69%) were switched to a β -lactam.

Conclusion. A pharmacist-led penicillin allergy de-labeling project is beneficial in reducing PCN allergies when skin testing is unavailable in community hospitals. As seen about 1 in 5 patients were able to remove their allergy through allergy evaluation or oral challenge. Furthermore, pharmacist evaluation of the allergy not only helped remove the allergy but also resulted in the most appropriate antibiotic.

SF PCN Allergy Project



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999. Examining the Impact of a Penicillin Allergy Skin Testing Brochure on Inpatient Perceptions: a Pre-Post Intervention Study

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Session: 129. Antibiotic Stewardship: Allergy Evaluation

Friday, October 4, 2019: 12:15 PM

Background. Despite the negative implications associated with a penicillin (PCN) allergy label, less than 0.1% of ~25 million subjects with PCN allergy undergo a PCN skin testing (PST). There is a lack of data assessing patient knowledge and attitude about PCN allergy and PST. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the impact of an educational brochure on knowledge and perception of PST in adult inpatients with a PCN allergy label.

Methods. This was a pre-post intervention study conducted at a 528-bed community teaching hospital between June 2016 and March 2019. An electronic medical record was used to identify adult inpatients with an active PCN allergy. Participants completed a pre-brochure survey to assess demographic characteristics and baseline knowledge of PCN allergy and PST. Individuals then read an educational brochure, returned it to study personnel and were provided a post-brochure survey to complete. The primary and secondary outcomes of knowledge and perception were measured based on the level of agreement with statements about PCN allergies and PST using a 5-point Likert scale. McNemar's test was used to compare responses for those who agreed vs. did not agree to knowledge statements.

Results. Among 125 patients approached, 101 completed the survey (80.8%). Patients were predominantly female (66.3%), >65 years of age (42.6%), Caucasian (78.2%) and completed high school or beyond (81.2%). The minority of patients (40.6%) previously heard about PST while 25.7% agreed they had previous discussions about PST with a healthcare provider. Only 24.8% agreed that people can outgrow a PCN allergy at baseline; however, after reading the brochure, this percent tripled (77.2%) ($P < 0.01$). Among 56 participants who disagreed that PST would be helpful for them at baseline, 30 subsequently agreed with this statement on the post-brochure survey ($P < 0.001$). Post-brochure, 86.1% indicated they felt better informed about PST. Despite this, 34.7% indicated they would be scared to use PCN again if future PST results were negative.

Conclusion. An educational brochure improved general knowledge of PCN allergy and PST, including subject report of feeling more informed. Although the brochure successfully educated patients, gaps remain regarding how individuals will personally apply this new information.

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1000. The Impact of Pharmacy Students Performing Penicillin Allergy Reconciliation in a Community Health System

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Session: 129. Antibiotic Stewardship: Allergy Evaluation

Friday, October 4, 2019: 12:15 PM

Background. Antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASP) play an important role in the assessment of patients with a reported history of penicillin allergy. Full-time pharmacists performing antimicrobial stewardship face many time barriers and limited resources to interviewing and investigating self-reported allergies. Pharmacy students on Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations during their fourth year can potentially play an important role in this evaluation if properly trained, but data are limited. This study evaluated APPE student interventions on hospital inpatients self-reporting a penicillin allergy.

Methods. This quasi-experimental study assessed patients with a self-reported penicillin allergy who were interviewed by APPE students from October 2018 through March 2019. Students on a 5-week infectious diseases rotation were trained in allergy assessment and interview skills by their preceptor and given a daily list of all inpatients with a self-reported penicillin allergy. After reviewing patients with the preceptor, the electronic health record was updated with specifics of the allergy, including the range, reaction, and any β -lactams tolerated since. Interventions included penicillin re-challenge, graded challenge, penicillin skin testing, desensitization, or removal of the allergy. The primary outcome was interventions attributed to APPE student patient interviews.

Results. A total of 12 APPE students participated in the study. Reported reactions ranged from mild allergies (itching, rash) or adverse reactions (nausea, vomiting) to intermediate or severe allergies (hives, anaphylaxis). For the primary outcome there were 162 interventions performed, with 154 verbal, 2 re-challenges, and 6 skin tests. For the verbal interventions, 95 had their allergy updated, 34 removed, and 33 confirmed. None of the 8 patients who were skin tested or re-challenged had a subsequent reaction.

Conclusion. Pharmacy students can expand ASP allergy reconciliation services for patients with penicillin allergies in settings with limited resources. After proper training, students were effective in multiple aspects of allergy reconciliation with a significant number able to have their penicillin allergy removed.

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1001. Feasibility and Outcomes of a Pre-Transplant Antibiotic Allergy Evaluation Program for Allogeneic Hematopoietic Cell Transplant (HCT) Candidates

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