


PENICILLIN SKIN TEST PROCEDURE – For Staff Trained to administer the Penicillin Skin Test

<p>Step 1: Preparation</p>	<p>Cleanse inner volar surface of forearm using alcohol swabs Label spot for each reagent:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. histamine (positive control), for skin prick test only 2. benzylpenicilloyl polylysine (PRE-PEN) 3. MDM 4. normal saline (preservative free) (negative control)
<p>Step 2: skin prick</p> <p>Place 1 drop of each reagent on the skin in the marked spot and prick the skin. Use different needles for each reagent.</p> <p>Observe for 15 min.</p> <p>Time: _____</p>	<p>Test results:</p> <p>Histamine – MUST be positive – wheal of at least 3 mm. If no wheal or wheal less than 3 mm to histamine, test is indeterminate. <i>Do not proceed.</i></p> <p>Penicillin reagents (PRE-PEN and MDM) Negative = no wheal or diameter is < 3 mm to penicillin reagents compared with negative control AND histamine control is positive. <i>Proceed to Step 3.</i></p> <p>Positive = wheal 3 mm or more greater than negative control. Erythema and itching are common. <i>Proceed to Step 5.</i></p>
<p>Step 3: Intradermal test</p> <p>Repeat Step 1 on opposite forearm or upper, outer arm below deltoid</p> <p>Inject 0.03 mL of each reagent, which should create a bleb of ~2 to 3 mm (may duplicate PRE-PEN and MDM at least 2 cm apart [optional]).</p> <p>Circle the size of the bleb after injection.</p> <p>Observe for 15 min.</p> <p>Time: _____</p>	<p>Test results:</p> <p>Negative = no increase in size of bleb / no difference compared with negative control <i>Proceed to Step 4.</i></p> <p>Positive = wheal/bleb increases 2 mm or more from original size, or is 2 mm larger than the negative control; erythema and itching are common. <i>Proceed to Step 5.</i></p>  <p>Indeterminate = wheal only slightly larger than original bleb/ negative control, with or without erythematous flare. <i>Test is over – patient to follow up with physician</i></p>
<p>Step 4 (optional but recommended):</p> <p>Penicillin challenge</p> <p>Observe closely for one hour after the challenge dose.</p> <p>Time: _____</p>	<p>Patients with a negative intradermal test may receive a penicillin challenge.</p> <p>The challenge can be oral or IV. Challenge with amoxicillin/ ampicillin will detect allergy to penicillin or amoxicillin/ ampicillin (side chain reaction), whereas challenge with penicillin would identify only penicillin allergy.</p> <p>Alternately, use the drug which is needed for the course of treatment.</p>
<p>Step 5: Update the Allergy/ Intolerance sheet</p>	<p>Prescriber's Order Sheet: "Allergy/ Intolerance sheet updated"</p> <p>Allergy/ Intolerance sheet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Penicillin skin test POSITIVE" • "Penicillin skin test NEGATIVE; patient tolerated _____ challenge"