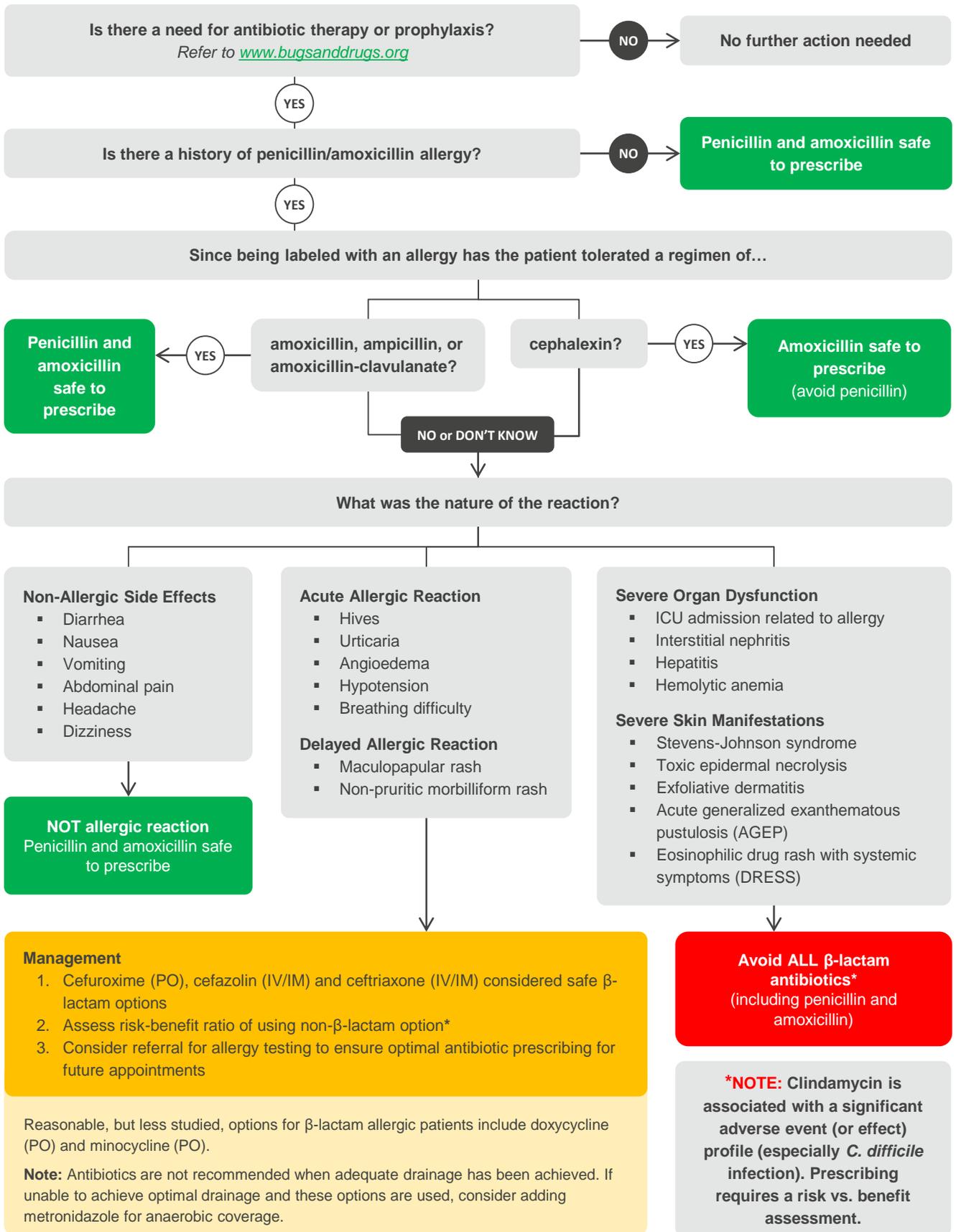


Management of Penicillin/Amoxicillin Allergic Patients in Dental Practice



Guide to Penicillin/Amoxicillin Allergy Management Tool

1 Refer to www.bugsanddrugs.org for best practice recommendations and to confirm whether your patient requires an antibiotic.

2 If your patient states they have a penicillin allergy, consider asking the following questions:

Do you have an allergy to penicillin?

- True penicillin allergy is infrequent. About 10% of people report allergy to penicillin but less than 1% of people have a true allergy.
- Penicillin allergies are not genetic; a relative with an allergy does not prohibit use.

When was the last time you had penicillin? Half of patients with IgE-mediated penicillin allergy lose their sensitivity after five years (80% after 10 years).

What was the nature of your reaction? In children, a rash occurring during a viral infection and concurrent amoxicillin therapy is not indicative of an allergy.

Have you previously tolerated amoxicillin, ampicillin, amoxicillin-clavulanate, or cephalexin? See reverse side for recommendations in prescribing based on past history of antibiotic use.

Were you ever hospitalized due to a penicillin reaction? See reverse side for contraindications for penicillin based on medical history.

3 Use the patient information to follow the allergy management tool on the reverse side.

4 Provide the patient with education materials (available at www.antibioticwise.ca).

Seven actions you can take to fight antibiotic resistance

1. Don't prescribe antibiotics for irreversible pulpitis.
2. Don't prescribe antibiotics for acute dental abscess without signs of systemic involvement.
3. Don't give prophylactic antibiotics prior to dental procedures to patients with total joint replacement.
4. Limit pre-operative antibiotics to a single dose.
5. Don't give prophylactic antibiotics to patients with non-valvular cardiac or other indwelling devices.
6. Use penicillin rather than amoxicillin as drug of first choice for most dental indications.
7. Use this allergy management tool to avoid over-use of clindamycin.

For more information

- Patient information resources available to print from www.antibioticwise.ca
- References available at www.bccdc.ca
- Please direct any comments or feedback on allergy management tool to info@antibioticwise.ca