



# what's SPOOKY



about penicillin  
allergies

↑ **MRSA**

↑ **C. Diff**

Patients with penicillin (PCN) allergies often receive broad-spectrum antibiotics. Because of this, having a PCN allergy **increases the risk** of contracting **methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)** by 69% and **C. difficile infections** by 26% (click [here](#) for more)



## What is NOT a true allergy?

- Stomach upset
- Diarrhea
- Family history of an allergy



## What can you do?

- Document STORY (click [here](#) for more)
- Symptoms (of the reaction)
- Timing (time since reaction)
- Onset (when symptoms started)
- Resolution (how symptoms resolved)
- Yet again (have they taken PCN again)
- Helps with allergy assessment



## What about use of cephalosporins?

- Most cephalosporins can be used as cross reactivity is rare
- Refer to the Drug Allergy Practice Parameter for details



## What about rechallenge?

- Many patients outgrow allergies
- Children's Mercy infectious Diseases Clinic and Allergy Clinic offer formal PCN allergy testing after provider referral

Use the QR code to take a quick quiz!



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