

# Penicillin allergies

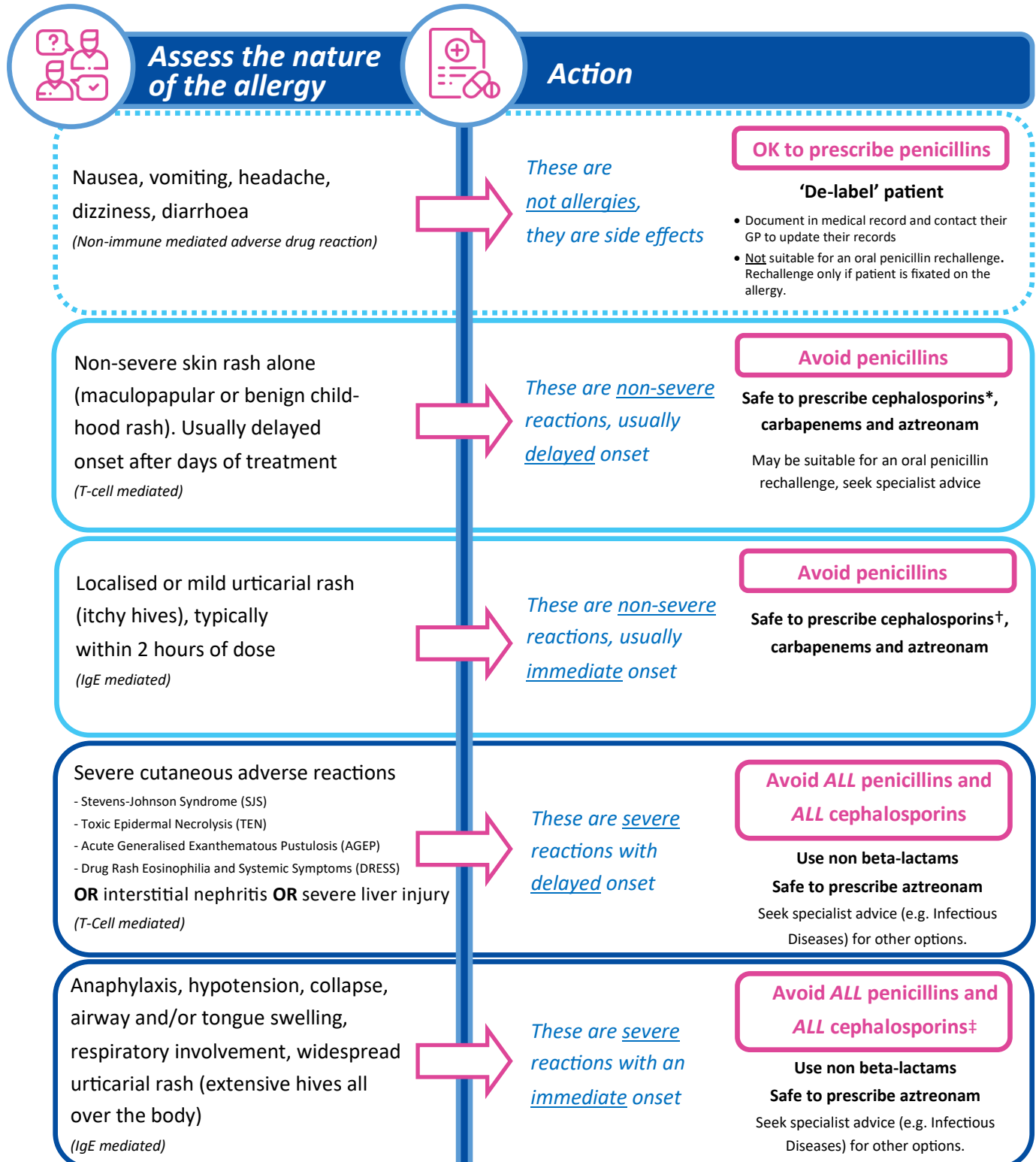
Information for hospital clinicians

## Action plan: Patients with penicillin allergies

Not all allergies are the same. It is important to ascertain and accurately document the nature of the allergy i.e.;

- What is the name of the penicillin, if known?
- What happened and how long ago?
- The specific penicillin involved (was it a single penicillin or a class reaction?)
- What beta-lactams have been tolerated since?

Refer to the Therapeutic Guidelines: Antibiotic Version 16 for further information.



\*Avoid cefalexin and cefaclor only if recent reaction (within 10 years) to amoxicillin or ampicillin, †Avoid cefalexin and cefaclor if reaction was to amoxicillin or ampicillin, ‡Cephalosporins or carbapenems may be given for critical infections in specialist settings, seek expert advice.