

# Allergy Status – Identification and Documentation

Basic Medication Safety (BMS) Certification Course  
King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences  
Ministry of National Guard – Health Affairs

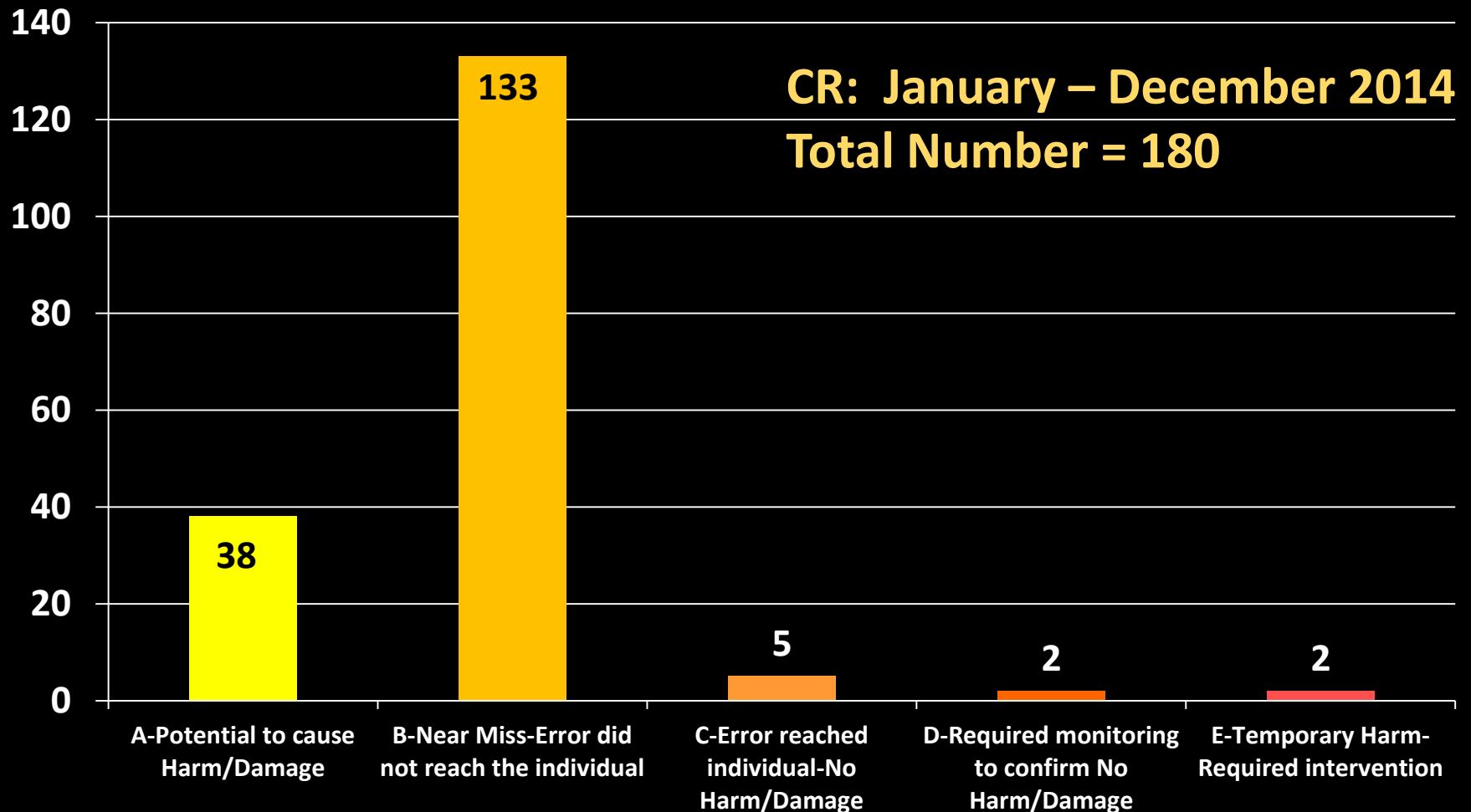
# Learning Objectives

- Identify the true drug allergic reactions
- Define the different types and classifications of ADR
- Identify the clinical presentation of drug allergy
- Recognize the treatment of drug hypersensitivity reactions
- Differentiate anaphylaxis from other allergic reaction presentations and its treatment

# Case # 1

- 64 year old woman
- Hx anaphylaxis with cefuroxime
- Dx bowel obstruction, s/p laparotomy / mesh repair
- Post-op: metroNIDAZOLE and ciprofloxacin
- ASO – day before anticipated discharge
- Cefuroxime 750 mg IV every 8 hour prescribed via CPOE
- Allergy alert fired, overridden by physician with 'OK'
- Allergy alert fired, overridden by pharmacist with '\*'
- Administered by a nurse without verifying the allergy
- ADT form over the bed transcribed "NKA"
- Anaphylactic shock / Coded / Transfer to ICU / Expired

# Medication Errors / Near Misses: Patients with Known Allergy Harm Category



# Definitions

- **Adverse Drug Reaction**: Is a response to a medicinal product which is noxious and unintended and which occurs at doses normally used in man for the prophylaxis, diagnosis or therapy of disease or for the restoration, correction or modification of physiological function. (Saudi FDA)
- **Drug hypersensitivity**: an immune-mediated response to a drug agent in a sensitized patient; includes both allergic and pseudo allergic drug reactions
- **Drug allergy**: is restricted specifically to a reaction mediated by IgE

# Classifications of ADRs

## 1. Type A Reactions

- Predictable
- Common
- Relate to the pharmacologic actions of the drug
- May occur in any individual
- **Examples:**
  - **Toxicity** – hepatic failure with high dose acetaminophen
  - **Side effect** – sedation with antihistamines
  - **Secondary effect** – development of diarrhea with antibiotic treatment
  - **Drug interaction** – theophylline toxicity in the presence of erythromycin tx

## 2. Type B Reactions

- Unpredictable
- Uncommon
- Usually not related to the pharmacologic actions of the drug
- Occur only in susceptible individuals
- **Example:**
  - **Hypersensitivity (immunologic) reaction**
    - anaphylaxis with penicillin administration

# Skin Manifestations



# Anaphylaxis (Type I Reactions)

- **Timing**
- IgE-mediated reactions occur rapidly after the last administered dose
- The time to onset is influenced by the route of administration:
  - IV: seconds to minutes
  - Orally: 3 - 30 minutes (empty stomach)
  - Orally: 10 - 60 minutes (with food)
- IgE-mediated anaphylactic reactions should NOT begin several days into a course of therapy



# History.....!

- Are you allergic to any drugs / food?
- What happened when you took this medication / food?
- When was this reaction?
- Have you taken that medication / food since?
- Do you have any other allergies?

# Common Medicines: Drug Allergy

- Anticonvulsants
- Anti-infectious agents
- Neuromuscular blocking agents (NMBA)
- NSAID (phenylbutazone, diclofenac,..)
- Radiocontrast media

# Case # 2

- 58 year old woman
- Hx allergy to Celecoxib and Penicillin, which was on pre-printed prescription form
- Prescribed Celecoxib and filled the same day
- Patient took first dose 13 days after filling prescription
  - “Mild” Anaphylaxis
  - ECC – EPINEPHrine, IV steroids and IV DiphenhydrAMINE
- Discharged home after three (3) hours

# Therapy and Management (Non-Anaphylaxis)

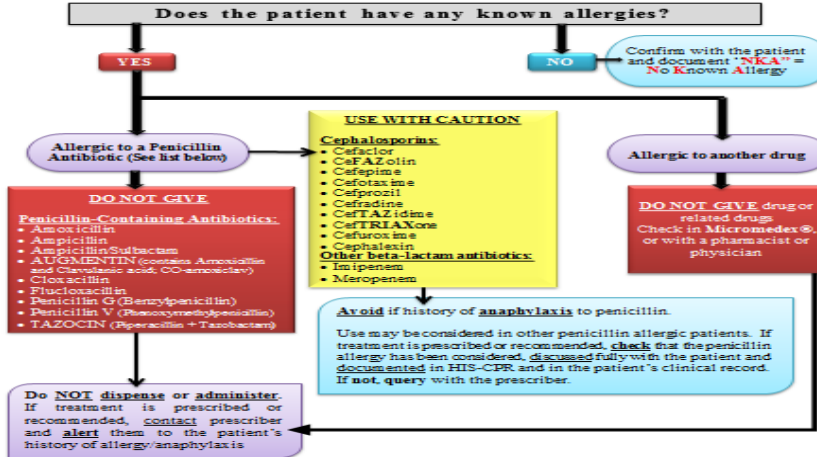
- Discontinuation of the offending medication
- Call the prescriber
- Symptoms will resolve within two (2) weeks if the diagnosis of drug hypersensitivity is correct
- Additional therapy for drug hypersensitivity reactions is largely supportive and symptomatic
- Systemic corticosteroids may speed recovery in severe cases of drug hypersensitivity
- Topical corticosteroids and oral antihistamines may improve dermatologic symptoms



APPENDIX F

FENICILLIN (BETA-LACTAM) ALLERGY CROSS-REACTIVITY ALGORITHM

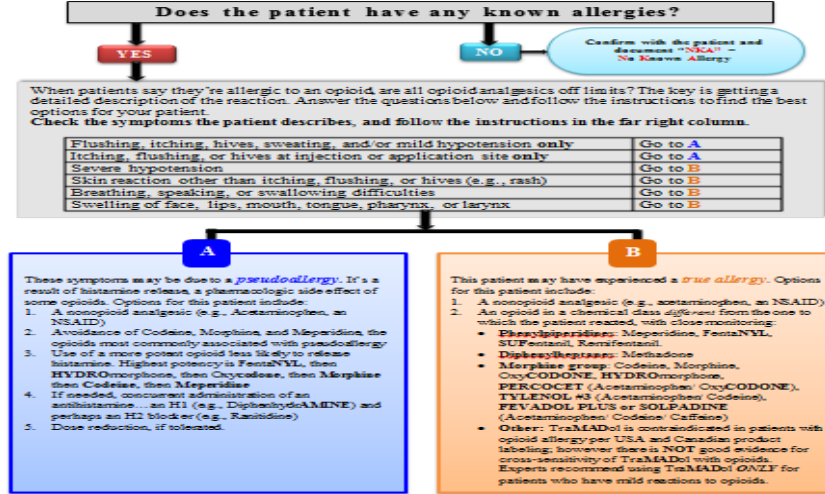
Always check for any drug allergy before prescribing, dispensing and administering drugs



APPENDIX E

OPIOID INTOLERANCE DECISION ALGORITHM

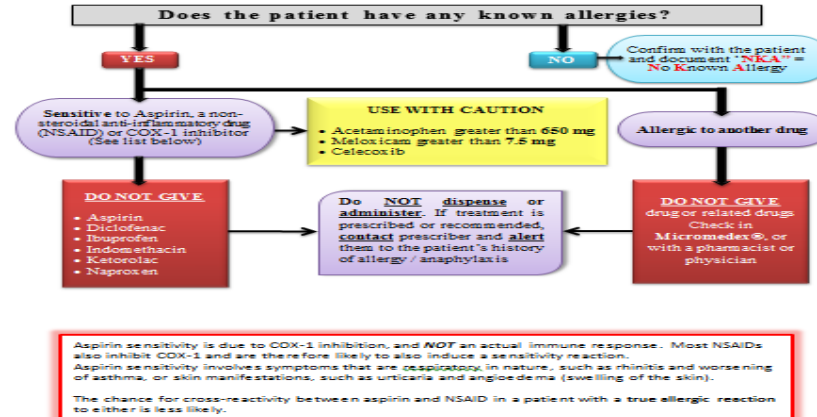
Always check for any drug allergy before prescribing, dispensing and administering drugs



APPENDIX D

ASPIRIN SENSITIVITY ALGORITHM

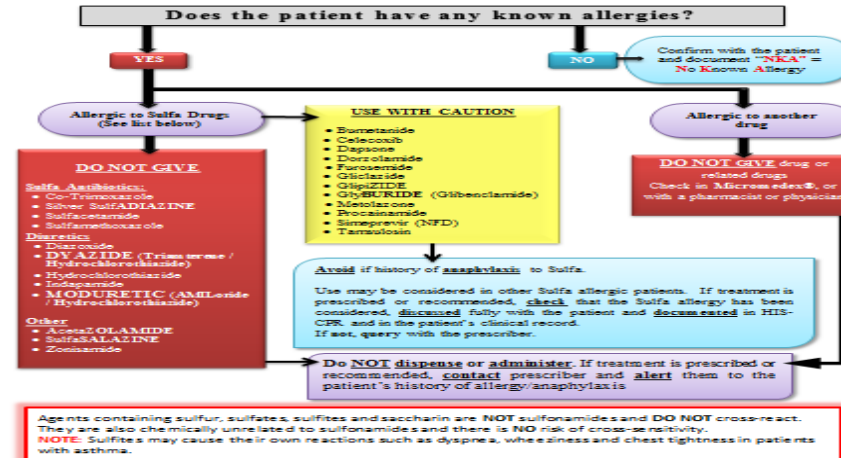
Always check for any drug allergy before prescribing, dispensing and administering drugs



APPENDIX G

SULFA DRUGS ALLERGY CROSS-REACTIVITY ALGORITHM

Always check for any drug allergy before prescribing, dispensing and administering drugs



# Remember.....!

- Pre-medication **WILL NOT** prevent anaphylaxis if given prior to the allergenic drug
- Pre-medication **ONLY** approved for previous Radio Contrast Media (RCM) reactions less than one (1) hour

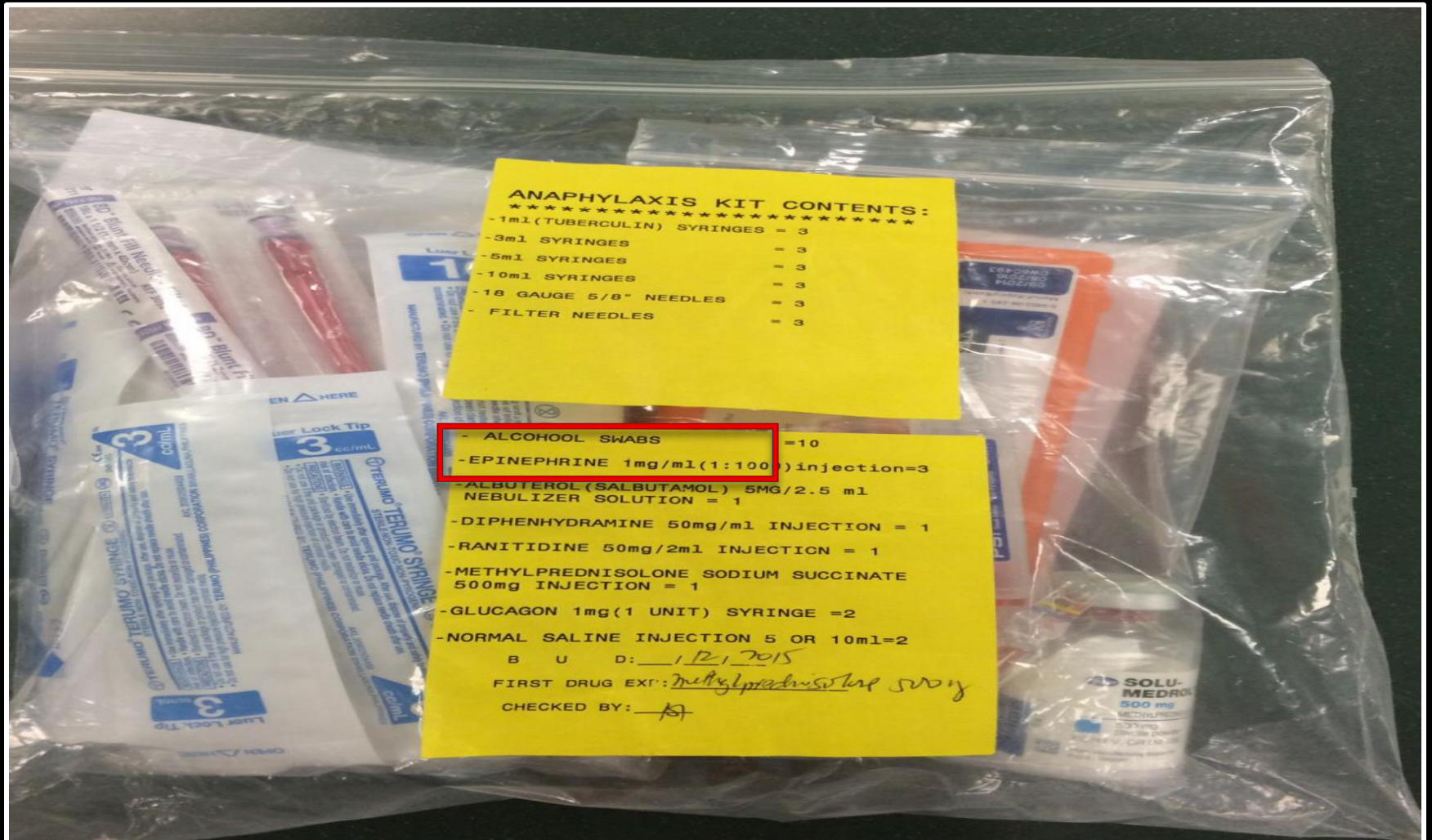


# Acute Anaphylaxis Management

1. EPINEPHrine
2. EPINEPHrine
3. EPINEPHrine
4. EPINEPHrine
5. EPINEPHrine
6. EPINEPHrine
7. EPINEPHrine
8. EPINEPHrine
9. EPINEPHrine
10. EPINEPHrine
11. EPINEPHrine
12. EPINEPHrine
13. EPINEPHrine
14. EPINEPHrine
15. EPINEPHrine
16. EPINEPHrine



# Anaphylaxis Kit: Standardized Kit available through Pharmaceutical Care Services Department for inclusion in Floor Stock





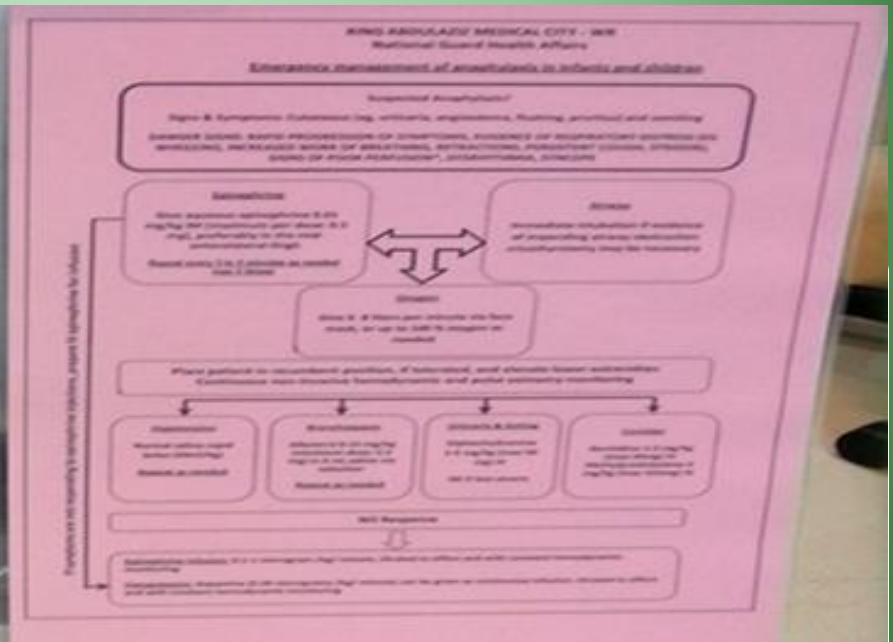
**KING ABDULAZIZ MEDICAL CITY - WR**  
National Guard Health Affairs

**Anaphylaxis**

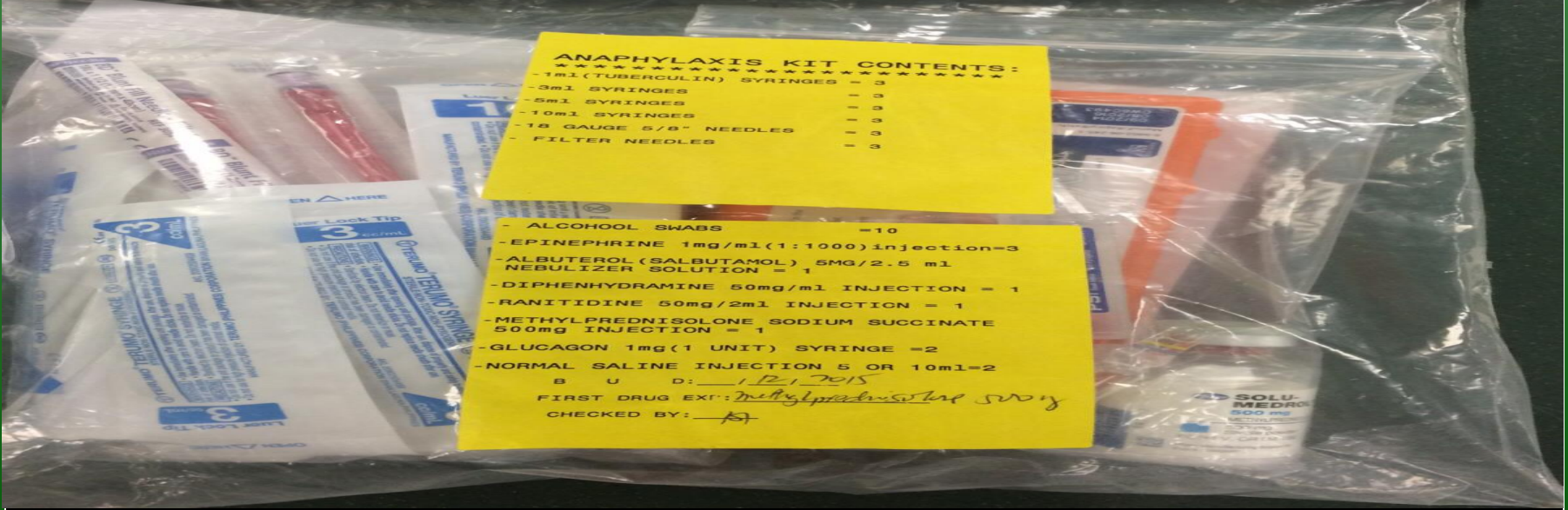
**Patient factors that increase risk of anaphylaxis severity and fatality**

Age
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants: under recognition, under diagnosis, no appropriate epinephrine auto-injector dose</li> <li>• Adolescents and young adults: I risk-taking behavior</li> <li>• Emerging "strong" (after and before) anaphylaxis prophylaxis against neonatal group B streptococcal infection is a common trigger</li> <li>• Adults: I risk of fatality from medication and events related anaphylaxis</li> </ul>
Comorbidities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asthma and other respiratory diseases, especially if severe or uncontrolled</li> <li>• CVDs, including hypertension</li> <li>• Metabolic and dental/oral care disorders</li> <li>• Allergic rhinitis and eczema</li> <li>• Depression and other psychiatric diseases (might impact recognition of symptoms)</li> <li>• Thyroid disease (some patients with autoimmune anaphylaxis)</li> <li>• Neurologic disease</li> <li>• Developmental delay</li> <li>• Subclinical conditions</li> <li>• Substance abuse</li> </ul>
Concomitant medication/clinical use
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potentially affect recognition of anaphylaxis</li> <li>• Subclinical/undiagnosed autoimmune disease</li> <li>• Potentially increase anaphylaxis severity</li> <li>• B-blockers and ACE inhibitors</li> </ul>
Other factors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection</li> <li>• Acute infection, such as upper respiratory tract infection</li> <li>• Allergies</li> <li>• Emotional stress</li> <li>• Disorientation, such as sleepwalking</li> <li>• Waning effect of recent previous anaphylaxis episode</li> <li>• Increased baseline plasma histamine levels (pseudotumor)</li> <li>• Increased level of IgE A/I activity, leading to increased A/II levels</li> <li>• Reduced level of A/I activity, leading to increased anaphylaxis levels</li> </ul>

When to refer to allergist? Specialist evaluation is recommended after a diagnosis of possible anaphylaxis -- to identify or confirm the cause, to evaluate ongoing appropriate avoidance strategies, to help in drafting an emergency action plan and to advise whether immunotherapy is appropriate



## APP 1433-16 Allergy Status –Identification and Documentation



# Allergy Documentation

- Allergy status must be documented before any medication(s) is / are administered, except in emergencies.
- Assessment and documentation of an allergy is a diagnosis and must be determined by a physician, and attention given to the diagnosis of Allergy prior to prescribing.
- It is the Physician's responsibility to verify and document allergy in the HIS-CPR, as well as on the patient's clinical record / order sheet, which should lead to the patient's chart to be "flagged" with allergy statement.

# Allergy Status

## Known allergy

Name the substance; for medications the generic name(s) of medication(s) must be documented

## No Known Allergy

The patient / carer and clinical records are clear that the patient has never experienced an allergic reaction or severe adverse reaction to any substance

## Allergy status is not yet ascertained

**ONLY** to be used in exceptional circumstances where it has not been possible to ascertain allergy status on admission. Allergy status must be confirmed as soon as possible

# Allergy Status

If a patient has documented previous known allergies, and upon investigation a physician deems the patient does not have the noted allergy:

- ✓ He / She must write an order to change the allergy status
- ✓ Document in the progress notes of the clinical record
- ✓ Update in the HIS-CPR

In the case of new allergies diagnosed by physician:

- ✓ He / She must write an order to change the allergy status
- ✓ Document in the progress notes of the clinical record
- ✓ Update in the HIS-CPR

**If the physician is in doubt about the allergy, referral should be made to an immunologist for confirmation**

Order Review and Verify

C-KAMC-R KASCH Type OP IP ER Classif. General Disc. MRN 556538 Queuing Number Queuing No. Prescription Date 14/12/2015 Refill Px. Exclude D/C Order Find

(OPD) M / 13y 144cm / 51.7kg / 1.44 20/07/2002 Scr/CLCr 000-001 Riyadh ALSUWAIDI

IMHPPH XIMHPPH04 XIMHPPH04

Physician Order [ Px. before Verif., Chemo Double Check ]

Pharmacy Verified [ Partial Refilled after V ]

Alert

MRN: 556538 Final Update Date: 06/12/2015 15:52 Change History

**Adverse Drug Reaction and Allergy (5 Case)**

- DiphenhydrAMINE Capsule** (Severe) Edit
  - Symptoms: Rash
  - Remarks: Diphenhydramine Hcl
  - Occurred Date: 01/12/2015 Info. Provider Caregiver Reg. Date: 01/12/2015 (MIG)
- Vancomycin (50mg/ml) Oral Solution** (Severe) Edit
  - Symptoms: anaphylaxis
  - Remarks: Vancomycin HCL
  - Occurred Date: 01/12/2015 Info. Provider Caregiver Reg. Date: 01/12/2015 (MIG)
- Other : Povidone-Iodine** (Severe) Edit
  - Symptoms: Rash
  - Occurred Date: 01/12/2015 Info. Provider Caregiver Reg. Date: 01/12/2015 (MIG)
- No Known Allergy** Edit
  - Occurred Date: 01/12/2015 Info. Provider Caregiver Reg. Date: 01/12/2015 (I/F)
- Other : Plastic Tape** (Non-Med) (Severe) Edit
  - Symptoms: Rash
  - Occurred Date: 01/12/2015 Info. Provider Caregiver Reg. Date: 01/12/2015 (MIG)

> Infection (0 Case)

There is no searched data.

> Clinical Alert (0 Case)

Print Px. Print Controlled Px. Print Label Chemo. Drug Label Save Comments Chemo. Double Chk. Cancel Verify

Drug Guide Print Narcotics Px. Search Partial Refill Release Close

Saudi Medication Safety Center  
المركز السعودي لسلامة الأدوية

# How to Reduce the Risk of Medication Error with Known Allergens: Recommendations


1. Check allergy status immediately before prescribing, dispensing or administering drugs: Every drug, Every patient, Every time.
2. Understand allergies and cross-allergies.
3. Educate patient / carer of their allergy status. Patients need to have a clear understanding of which drugs(s) to avoid. The patient is the one constant factor irrespective of where health care is delivered.
4. Standardize allergy history taking & documentation.
5. Maximize the impact of computerized prescribing.



# APP 1433-16: Allergy & Hypersensitivity Recording & Documentation

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia  
Ministry of National Guard  
Health Affairs



المملكة العربية السعودية  
وزارة الحرس الوطني  
الشؤون الصحية

# APP

**MINISTRY OF NATIONAL GUARD - HEALTH AFFAIRS  
ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

NUMBER	:	APP 1433-16
TITLE	:	ALLERGY STATUS - IDENTIFICATION AND DOCUMENTATION
ORIGINATING DEPT.	:	SAUDI MEDICATION SAFETY CENTER (SMSC)
ORIGINAL DATE	:	OCTOBER 2012
REVISED DATE	:	SEPTEMBER 2015

**1. PURPOSE**

To define the process in identification and documentation of patient allergy/intolerance status in order to prevent patient harm within the Ministry of National Guard – Health Affairs (MNG-HA) healthcare and all affiliated facilities.

**2. APPLICABILITY**

To all healthcare staff involved in the medication use process related to the medications listed in the MNG-HA Drug Formulary within all MNG-HA healthcare and all affiliated facilities.

**3. RELATED REFERENCES**

3.1 APP 1429-03: Prescribing and Dispensing Medication Guidelines

3.2 APP 1430-10: Clinical Record Content and Documentation Standards

3.3 APP 1430-27: Patient Admission (H&P) Assessment

**Safe Patient Care Is Our Goal**