



Vaccinations and allergies

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The following are true allergic (IgE-mediated) reactions?

- A anaphylaxis
- B serum sickness
- C Arthus reaction
- D urticaria
- E itching nodules
- F local (painfull) swelling and erythema

1. A + C + D + F
2. A + C + D + E + F
3. B + C + D + F
4. A + C + F
5. A + D

Hypersensitivity reactions

- Immediate reactions (type 1 hypersensitive reactions)
 - IgE-mediated
 - minutes upto 4h after vaccine
 - urticaria, angio-edema, resp. distress, anaphylaxis
- Delayed reactions (type 3 hypersensitive reactions)
 - immune complexes, T-cell mediated (?)
 - hours to days (upto 2-3 weeks) after vaccine
 - rashes (urticaria, erythema multiforme), Arthus reaction, angio-edema, arthritis,...
- Non immunologic:
 - hard itching nodules < adjuvans ex. Aluminium

The following symptoms are common in anaphylaxis

- A itching erythema or urticaria
- B pailness
- C coughing
- D bradycardia
- E urinary loss
- F unconsciousness

1. A + B + C + F

2. A + C + D + E + F

3. B + C + D + F

4. A + C + F

5. A + C + D + F

Anaphylaxis <-> pseudo allergic reactions

- Anaphylaxis:

- acute allergic reaction (resp tract, and/or cardiovascular sympt and/or cutaneous sympt)

- laryngeal oedema/ bronchospasme
- shock (volume deficit due to increased vascular permeability)
- urticaria, angio-edema

- Syncope:

- palor, hypotension, nausea, (vomiting), muscle weakness, bradycardia

- Hyperventilation

The following statements are correct

- A A non-allergic person may go home immediately after any vaccination
- B In a non-allergic person, observation for 15 min. is only necessary after vaccination with a live-attenuated vaccine
- C Observation for at least 15 min. is necessary for any person following any vaccination
- D An egg allergic person must be observed during 30 min. after YF-vaccination

1. A + D
2. B + D
3. C + D
4. C
5. None is correct

Risk of adverse reactions following vaccination¹

Syncope

- Incidence: unknown¹
- 77.4% in persons < 20y (45.5% in 10-19y)¹
- Morbidity related to fall¹
- FDA: 2000-2006: 107 reports of syncope/presyncope/unintended injury on day of vaccination²
 - 100/107 **within 20'** after vaccination
 - 105/107 falls; 2 motor cycle collisions
 - 83/107: **2-17y old**
 - 3/107 **severe head injuries** (2 fatal cases)
 - 65/107: **moderate to minor injuries** of the head or extremities
 - 39/107: falls without any injuries

Risk of adverse reactions following vaccination²

Anaphylaxis

- Anaphylaxis in children/ ado's
→ 0.65 cases/ 10⁶ doses – 1.53 cases/ 10⁶ doses ¹
- Estimated incidences:
 - DTP: 2/ 100.000
 - HBV: 0.16/ 100.000
 - MMR: 0.016 - 0.35/ 100.000 ²
 - YF vaccine: 0.76/ 100.000 (40/5.236.820 doses) ³

Other

- YF-vaccine associated neutropenic disease ⁴
→ 0.4/ 100.000
- YF-vaccine associated viscerotropic disease ⁴
→ 0.3/ 100.000

¹ Bohlke K. et al. Pediatrics 2003; 112 (4): 815-20

² Plotkin 2008

³ Kelso J.M. et al. J Allergy Clin Immunol 1999;103 (4): 698-701

⁴ N.P. Lindsey et al. Vaccine 2008; 26: 6077-6082

Anaphylaxis

- onset
 - minutes upto 4h after vaccination
- resp. symptoms
 - larynx edema
 - bronchospasm, coughing
- cutaneous symptoms
 - urticaria
 - pruritus
 - angio-edema
- cardiovascular symptoms
 - hypotension (persistent)
 - tachycardia
- neurological symptoms
 - unconsciousness (persistent)

Syncope

- onset
 - before
 - during
 - upto 15 min after vaccination
- no resp. symptoms
- cutaneous symptoms
 - pallor
 - sweating
- cardiovascular symptoms
 - hypotension (short)
 - bradycardia
- neurological symptoms
 - unconsciousness (short)
 - urinary loss

Increased risk for anaphylaxis is associated with

- A Contact allergy for neomycin
- B dyspnoea after ingestion of eggs
- C swelling of the limb after formal vaccination (Arthus reaction)
- D urticaria after formal vaccination

1. A + B + D
2. B + D
3. B + C + D
4. All of the above

Prevention of anaphylaxis

- Identification of patients at increased risk through anamnesis

Previous reactions (edema of mouth / larynx, dyspnoe, cardiovascular signs) after contact with

- any vaccin,
 - latex,
 - antibiotics (neomycin, polymyxine),
 - eggs,
 - yeast,
 - other
- Other evaluations if “+” anamnesis: ID test, skin test,...
 - Patients with increased risk => vaccination in hospital setting with resuscitation possibilities
 - Always 15 min. observation after any vaccination

Suspected IgE-mediated reaction: work-up

- **Evaluation of IgE-mediated reaction** ¹

- skin prick tests: 1/10 ; full strength
 - specific serum IgE
 - intradermal tests: 1/ 100 ; 1/ 10
 - If '-': IgE-mediated allergy very unlikely
 - basophil activation test (BAT)²
 - IgE-mediated allergy for in- and outdoor allergens, food allergies, latex allergy, hymenoptera venom allergy, some drug allergies
 - no routine analysis
- } Cave false or clinically irrelevant "+" results

- **IgG-level** ¹

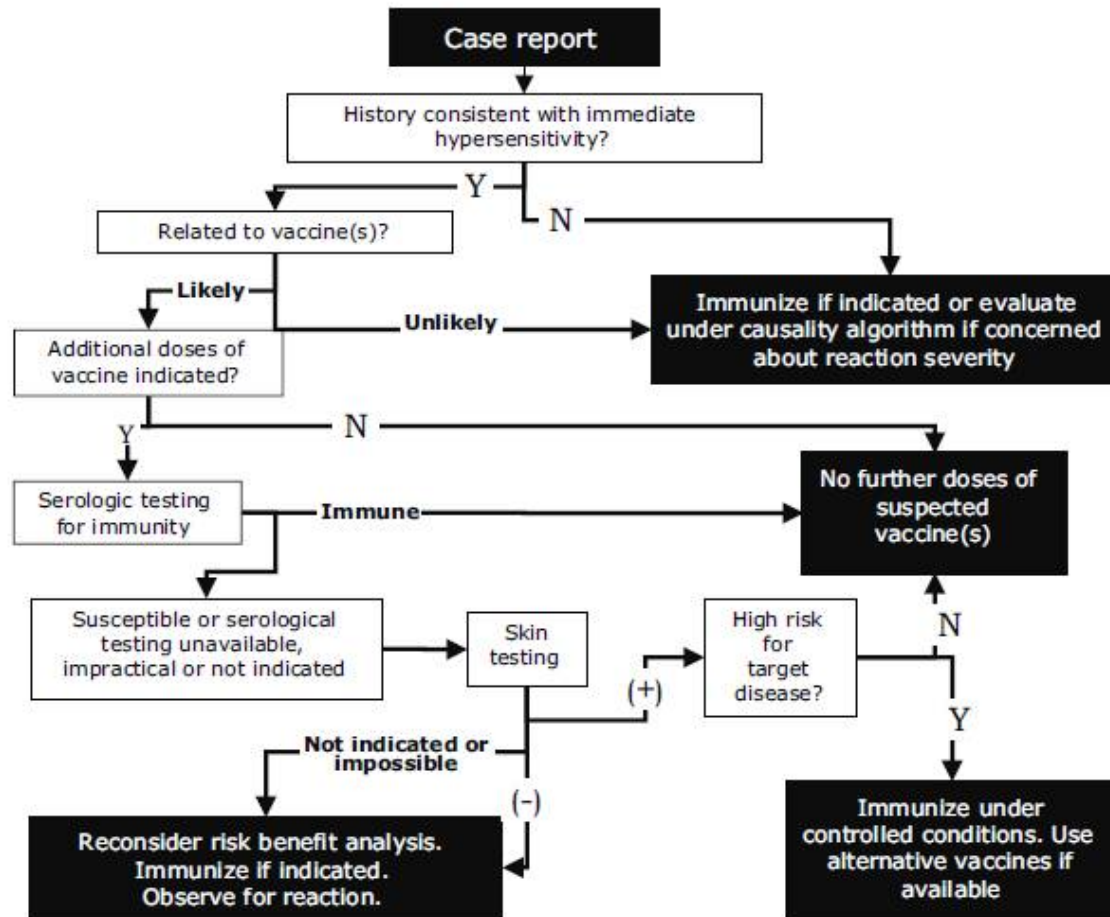
- if level consistent with protection from disease => consider withholding additional doses

Table 1. Levels of Antibody Associated With Protection From Vaccine-Preventable Diseases

Vaccine	Protective level of IgG antibody \geq
Diphtheria	0.1 IU/mL ¹¹
Haemophilus influenzae type B	0.15 μ g/mL ²⁹
Hepatitis A	10 mIU/mL ³⁰
Hepatitis B surface antibody	10 mIU/mL ³¹
Measles (rubeola)	120 mIU/mL (PRN titer) ³²
Polio (inactivated)	1:8 neutralizing antibody titer ³³
Rabies	0.5 IU/mL (VNA titer) ³⁴
Rubella	10 IU/mL ³⁰
Tetanus	0.1 IU/mL ¹¹
Yellow fever	0.7 IU/mL ²⁹

Abbreviations: IU, international units; mIU, milli-international units; PRN, plaque reduction neutralization; VNA, virus-neutralizing antibodies.

Algorithm for management of suspected allergic reactions to vaccines



Treatment of anaphylaxis

- Adrenaline (epinephrine) IM (1:1000 sol.) in m. quadriceps.
- Dosis: 0.01 mg/kg (= 0.01 ml/kg) max. 0.5 mg

< 1 year:	0.05-01 ml
1-2y (~10kg):	0.1 ml
2-3y (~15kg):	0.15ml
4-6y (~20kg):	0.20 ml
7-10y (~30kg):	0.30ml
11-12y (~40kg):	0.40ml
≥13y:	0.40-0.50ml

Repeat dosis after 5 min. if no clinical response

An egg-allergic person may be vaccinated under normal conditions with:

- A YF-vaccine
- B MMR
- C hepatitis A vaccine
- D influenza vaccine
- E japanese encefalitis vaccine

- 1. A + B + C
- 2. B + C + E
- 3. C + D + E
- 4. B + C + D
- 5. B + C + D + E

The following statements are true

- A Gelatine is a major allergen in MMR and JE-vax
- B latex allergy is a contra-indication for any vaccine
- C yeast allergy is associated with adverse events following hepatitis A vaccine
- D contact allergy for neomycin is a contra-indication for vaccination with neomycin containing vaccines
- E thiomersal is a major cause of anaphylaxis after vaccination

1. A + B + D + E
2. A + C + E
3. A + B + C
4. A + C
5. A
6. None of the above

Egg allergy

- **MMR** ^{1, 2}
 - culture on chicken embryo fibroblasts
 - no special precautions necessary
- **Influenza and YF-vaccin** ^{1, 2}
 - culture on chickeneggs
 - **serious or life-treathening allergy**
 - skin testing
 - desensitisation (if skintest +)
 - **less severe or local manifestations of allergy**
 - no skin testing
 - vaccination in 2 steps ³ (evaluated for influenza vaccines)
 - 1° 10% of dose SC - 30 min observation
 - 2° 90% of dose SC - 30 min observation

Yellow fever vaccine and serious or life-threatening egg allergy

- **Flow chart (3 steps)¹**

- Skin prick test (“+“ if wheal ≥ 3 mm larger than control + surrounding flare)

- ID-test (“+“ if wheal ≥ 5 mm or larger than control)

- SC administration of reduced dose vaccine

- ⇒ no reaction: -> continue vaccination

- ⇒ reaction:
 - stop vaccination
 - desensitisation if vaccine really warranted

- **Protected seroimmunity after reduced dose**

- Roukens A et al. PLoS One 2008; 3 (4): e1993

- Roukens A et al. Vaccine 2009; 27: 2408-09

Flowchart: vaccination in patients with serious or life threatening egg allergy



Desensitisation protocol

- Controlled setting
- interval of 30 min between doses
- next dose only when no signs of AR

- a. 0.05ml of 1:10 solution
- b. 0.05 ml of full strength
- c. 0.10 ml of full strength
- d. 0.15 ml of full strength
- e. 0.20 ml of full strength
- f. 0.50 ml of full strength (for 1.0 ml vaccines only)

- note: use of antihistamines or oral corticosteroids prior to vaccination has never been studied or proved effective for vaccine allergy; effectiveness? immunogenicity?

Gelatine allergy

- Often no prior known allergy to gelatine containing foods
- associated with immediate HS reactions after:
 - JE-vaccine (not Ixiaro)
 - YF-vaccine
 - MMR
 - varicella vaccines
 - ...

Latex allergy: ACIP recommendations

- **Severe (anaphylaxis) allergy to latex**
 - No administration of vaccines supplied in vials or syringes that contain natural rubber (unless benefit of vaccination outweighs the risk)
- **Other allergic reactions than anaphylaxis** (ex. contact allergy latex gloves)
 - Vaccines supplied in vials or syringes that contain natural rubber can be administered

Yeast allergy and HBV-vaccine

- Saccharomyces cerevisiae-derived vaccines
- Few patients with immediate HS-reactions ^{1,2}
- Bakonde et al.³
 - 4 children with urticaria, angio-edema, asthma after HBV-vaccine
 - all skintest negative
 - all but 1 tolerated booster vaccination

¹ André FE. Vaccine 1990; 8(S): 74-8

² Brightman CA et al. Lancet 1989; 22: 903

³ Bakonde VB et al. Rev Fr Allergol 1998; 38: 315-8

Contact allergy to formaldehyde or antibiotics present in vaccines

- Allergy diagnosed by patchtests
- If no history of systemic reaction
 - ⇒ No contra-indication for vaccination
- possible adverse event:
 - exacerbation of eczema
 - Delayed type local reaction (48-96h): erythematous pruritic nodule

Thiomersal

- **Mercuric derivate** – common preservative in (multi-dose) vaccines, topical medicines and cosmetics
- **1990's: association of Thiomersal and autism spectrum disorders?**

→ no evidence for this association ¹

→ 1999: US public health service + AAP ²

Recommendation to eliminate or reduce to trace amounts Thiomersal from vaccines for use in children < 24 months

=> 2002 implementation of recommendations for all childh vaccines in EU and USA³

¹ Parker SK et al. Pediatrics 2007; 114 (3): 793-804

² McMahon AW et al. Vaccine 2008; 26 (3): 427-9

³ Hessel L. Bull Acad Natl Med 2003; 187 (8): 1501-10

Thiomersal allergy

- **Mostly delayed type⁵** - Patch-tests: not clinically relevant ^{5,6,8}
 - Patch-test positive adults:
 - adverse events other than occasional injection site reactions are exceedingly rare ^{6,8}
 - IM Challenge of allergic adults with increasing strengths of thiomersal ⁹
 - 100 µgr/ ml solution induced only mild local reaction in 9% of pts
 - Comparison of inactivated influenza vaccine thiomersal containing and not containing in children < 2y ⁴
 - no difference in rash, injection site reactions and infections
- **Immediate hypersensitivity reaction**
 - Few adult case reports after influenza vaccine containing thiomersal ^{2,3,7}

² Zheng W et al. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol. 2007; 99 (6): 574-5

³ Lee-Wong M. et al. Ann Allergy Asthma Immunol. 2005; 94 (1): 90-4 ; ⁴ McMahon AW et al. Vaccine 2008; 26 (3): 427-9

⁵ Hessel L. Bull Acad Natl Med 2003; 187 (8): 1501-10 ; ⁶ Wattanakrai P et al. J Med Assoc Thai 2007; 90 (9): 1775-9

⁷ Karsen H et al. J Infect Devel countries 2007; 1 (3): 348-349 ;

⁸ Rietschel et al. Antiseptics and disinfectants. Ficher's Contact Dermatitis, 5th ed. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2001:12:151 ; ⁹ Audicana et al. Am J Contact Dermat 2002; 13: 3-9

Conclusions

- SAE following vaccination are rare
- Most allergic patients can be safely vaccinated
- careful evaluation of the cause of a previous SAE is necessary to:
 - prevent another SAE
 - allow future vaccination of the patient