

Natural Rubber Latex Allergy Patient Screening Questionnaire

When patients are first being assessed, whether in out-patients, assessment clinics, admission or prior to any intervention in clinical settings, it is important that their allergic status is determined as far as is possible. This assessment tool should aid that process.

1. Initial Assessment

- i. Ask the patient if they have an allergy to any medicines, foods or other items
- ii If the patient states that they have no allergies then treat as normal
- iii If the patient states that they are allergic to any of the following, this should trigger additional questioning; balloons, contraceptives, rubber gloves, dental blocks, hot water bottles, erasers, rubber bands/balls, pillows, elastic dressing and bandages, elastic waistbands/underwear.
- iii If the patient states that they are allergic to any of the following, this should trigger additional questioning; apples, avocados, bananas, celery, cherries, chestnuts, ficus, figs, grapes, kiwi, latex, mangoes, melons, passion fruit, peaches, pears, pistachios, potatoes, ragweed, strawberries, tomatoes.

TREAT AS HIGH RISK

2. Further questions

- a Ask the patient what symptoms they experience when they eat/touch the products listed above
- b If the patient states any of the following symptoms, further questions should be asked; breathlessness, skin redness, chapping or cracking of hands, swelling of lips or tongue, runny nose, congestion, hives, itching.

TREAT AS TYPE I

3. Assessment conclusion

If the patient in addition to positive responses to the questions above, suffers from any of the following then treat as a high risk individual and follow the protocol;

- Contact dermatitis
 - Eczema
 - Asthma
 - Auto-immune disease (Lupus etc)
- Spina bifida
Multiple genitourinary surgery

- Hay fever

TREAT AS TYPE I

If the patient assessment results in a high-risk outcome, then label the patient's notes and notify all others who may treat the patient. If the patient is to be admitted, use a red identification bracelet.

Refer to the Ward and Department Protocols for further advice