

October 14, 2025

The Honorable Morgan Griffith
U.S. House of Representatives
2202 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ami Bera, MD
U.S. House of Representatives
172 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Support for H.R. 5736, the *Penicillin Allergy Verification and Evaluation Act*

Dear Representatives Griffith and Bera:

The undersigned patient and provider organizations write in support of the ***Penicillin Allergy Verification and Evaluation Act (H.R. 5736)***, which would require that penicillin allergy verification and evaluation be included in the “Welcome to Medicare” preventive visit and annual wellness visits.

Millions of patients believe they are allergic to penicillin, but evidence shows that more than 90% of patients who have a [self-reported penicillin allergy](#) in their electronic medical record can [safely](#) take penicillin after [verification testing](#) and evaluation. A [2023 study](#) of adults 65 and older with a penicillin allergy found that 97% were disproved after verification testing.

The mislabeling of penicillin allergies has led to unnecessarily avoiding these treatments which remain first-line therapies for many infections and thus contributing to the rise of drug-resistant bacteria and compromised patient care. By proper evaluation, verification, and removal of a penicillin allergy, when appropriate, the effectiveness of other antibiotics can be safeguarded to preserve their ability to treat infections and to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.

Removing a penicillin allergy label from the patient’s electronic medical record is a relatively easy, low cost, and important public health intervention that can improve patient outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and advance the fight against antimicrobial resistance. Correctly identifying and addressing inaccurate reports of penicillin allergy is crucial for older adults, who face heightened vulnerability to severe infections and adverse drug reactions. The ***Penicillin Allergy Verification and Evaluation Act*** seeks to improve antibiotic stewardship and combat antimicrobial resistance by identifying and de-labeling Medicare patients who have been previously inaccurately labeled with a penicillin allergy by adding “penicillin allergy verification and evaluation” as part of Medicare’s Initial Preventative Physical Exam and Annual Wellness Visit.

Thank you for your leadership to improve appropriate antibiotic use. Please do not hesitate to contact any of the undersigned organizations, should you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
Allergy & Asthma Network
American Academy of Emergency Medicine
American Academy of Otolaryngic Allergy
American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery
American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
American College of Physicians
American Gastroenterological Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Medical Association
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
Campaign Urging Research for Eosinophilic Diseases
Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Connection Team
Food Allergy Research & Education
Infectious Diseases Society of America
Food Protein-Induced Enterocolitis Syndrome
The Mast Cell Disease Society
Peggy Lillis Foundation

Cc: The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks, MD
The Honorable Suzan Del Bene
The Honorable Jake Auchincloss
The Honorable Robert Onder, MD
The Honorable Kim Schrier, MD