

Check Again Network – Summary report

OFFICIAL

In 2024, Safer Care Victoria established the Check Again Network to help Victorian hospitals better assess and test penicillin allergies. The Network enabled hospitals to learn from each other, build capability, and share practical tools and data. It focused on safely assessing, testing and removing incorrect penicillin allergy labels, where appropriate, and ensuring patients receive the most suitable antibiotic treatment for their infection.

Background

The Check Again Network helps hospitals to better assess, test and delabel (remove) inaccurate penicillin allergy labels. The Network supports hospitals across Victoria to safely assess allergies, share learning, and build confidence in allergy assessment, improving patient safety by ensuring Victorians receive the most appropriate antibiotics when needed.

Aim

By June 2026, more than 35% of Victorian public health services will implement an inpatient penicillin allergy assessment and delabelling program, ensuring more Victorians have access to the safest and most appropriate antibiotics.

Improvement approach

The Network helped Victorian hospitals to spread and scale penicillin allergy and testing programs across Victorian hospitals. It brings health services together to share knowledge, data, and lessons learned, while providing access to clinical expertise, practical tools, and resources to support penicillin allergy programs.

Next steps

From July 2026, Austin Health is leading Check Again Network. This marks the next chapter for the Network and will build on the strong foundation established by Safer Care Victoria.

Results

Participating health services

29 Victorian health services, including:

- 17 regional, rural or remote services
- 1 private health service

Duration

June 2024 – June 2026

Summary

- The Network enabled 37.3% (28 of 75) of Victorian public health services to implement an inpatient penicillin allergy assessment and delabelling program.
- More than 3,700 Victorians had clinicians assess their penicillin allergy.
- More than 1,700 Victorians had their penicillin allergy removed.
- The Network provided teams with practical guidance to safely start an allergy program.
- Hospitals integrated allergy assessment into their existing workflows and clinical pathways.
- Services used shared tools to standardise how they assessed and documented allergies.
- Peer networks supported teams and reduced the burden of starting a service alone.

To receive this publication in an accessible format [email Safer Care Victoria](mailto:info@safercare.vic.gov.au)
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