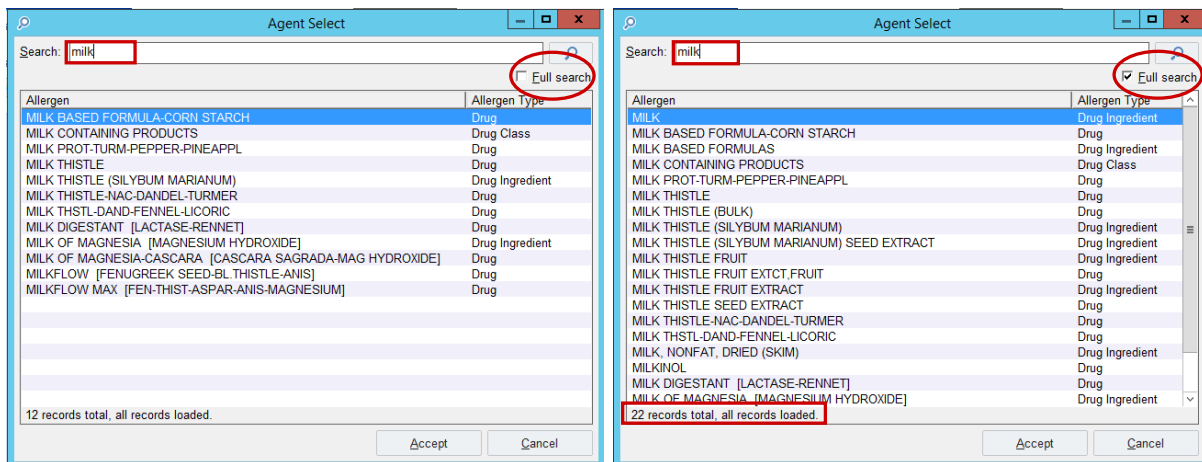


Allergy Documentation: Best Practices



1. No Free Text Allergies. These Do Not Trigger Clinical Decision Support

- Make sure to click the “full search” box when searching for an allergen, and make sure you are spelling the allergen correctly. The allergen you are looking for exists. **Do not enter Epic free-text allergies**



2. Allergy Entry: Allergen, Reaction, Reaction Type

- Allergy entries should include 3 things: **an allergen, a reaction, and a reaction type**

Allergies/Contraindications

Add a new agent + Add

Reaction

Allergies Allergen

PENICILLINS

Agent: Comments:

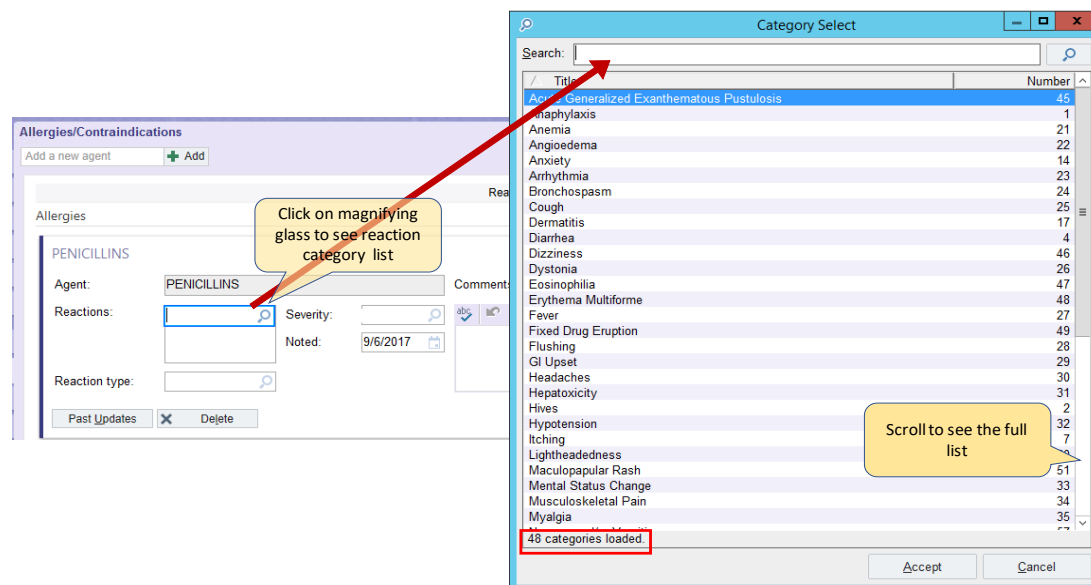
Reactions: Severity: Reaction type:

Noted:

Past Updates Delete

Severity may prepopulate depending on the reaction chosen

- Reactions** should be chosen from the pick list. If there is not a coded choice for the reaction choose “Other, See Comments” and free text the specified reaction(s) into the “Comments” box



3. Data Entry: Be Specific! No “Other” or “Unknowns”

- **Reaction types:**
 - Allergies (anaphylaxis, rash, shortness of breath)
 - Contraindications (antimalarial drugs in G6PD deficiency, NSAIDs in renal failure, etc.)
 - Intolerances (nausea or headache)
- **Reactions:**
 - Enter “hives” instead of “rash” if the nature of the rash was known to be hives
- **Drugs:** Always enter specific drugs, when possible. Not all drug classes are available
 - Enter “cephalexin” instead of “cephalosporin”
 - Enter “fluoxetine” instead of “SSRI”
 - Enter “furosemide” instead of “loop diuretic”
 - Enter “amlodipine” instead of “calcium channel blockers”
- **Food:**
 - Enter “pecan” instead of “nut”
 - Enter peanut; it is a legume and is not included in the food category “tree nuts”
- **“Unknown”** as a reaction should be reserved for situations when the **patient does not know the reaction**, **NOT** when the clinician entering the information does not know the information



4. Environmental Allergies (Cats, Dogs, Ragweed, Birch Tree, etc.) do NOT Belong in the Allergy List

- Enter environmental allergies (cats, dogs, dust mite) and seasonal allergies (ragweed, birch tree, etc) in the problem list. Specific known allergens can be included in the text of this problem

Name	HCC	ICD-10 Code(s)	ICD-9 Code(s)
Environmental allergies		Z91.09	V15.09
Environmental and seasonal allergies		J30.89	477.8
Environmental asthma		J45.909	493.00
Environmental exposure to algae bloom		Z77.121	E928.6

5. Delete Inaccurate or Outgrown Allergies and Correct Free Text Allergies

- If a patient has tolerated the medication since the time of allergy entry, delete the allergy
- If a patient has tolerated a similar medication despite the allergy listing, use the “Comments” field to indicate specific situation of tolerance
- There will still be a record of deleted allergies!

- Allergies brought from our old systems to Epic may be in free text → **convert these into coded entries and delete the free text**
 - Free text allergies may say “PHS Other Free Text”
 - Reactions are also sometimes in free text with “Other, See Comment” as a reaction with free text in the “comments box”

Reaction	Severity	Reaction Type	Noted	Valid Until	Updated
Allergies					
Dorzolamide-timolol dizziness	Other (See Comments)	High	Allergy	7/17/2014	Past Updates...
Acetaminophen	Hives	Allergy	2/24/2014		Past Updates...
Phs Other Free Text-see Phs Viewer			12/20/2011		Past Updates...
CILLINS NUTRASWEET, MSG, SULFATES.					
Soy	Swelling	Allergy	2/24/2014		Past Updates...