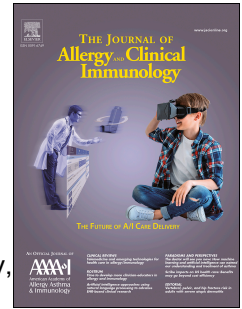


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BETA-LACTAM-INDUCED IMMEDIATE HYPERSENSITIVITY REACTIONS: A GENOME-WIDE ASSOCIATION STUDY OF A DEEPLY PHENOTYPED COHORT

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1
2 **BETA-LACTAM-INDUCED IMMEDIATE**
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4 **ASSOCIATION STUDY OF A DEEPLY PHENOTYPED**
5 **COHORT**
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81

82

83

84

85

86 **ABSTRACT**

87

88 **Background:** β -lactam antibiotics are associated with a variety of immune-mediated
89 or hypersensitivity reactions, including immediate (Type I) reactions mediated by
90 antigen-specific IgE.

91

92 **Objective:** To identify genetic predisposing factors for immediate reactions to β -
93 lactam antibiotics.

94

95 **Methods:** Patients with a clinical history of immediate hypersensitivity reactions to
96 either penicillins or cephalosporins, which were immunologically confirmed, were
97 recruited from allergy clinics. A genome-wide association study (GWAS) was
98 conducted on 662 patients (the discovery cohort) with a diagnosis of immediate
99 hypersensitivity and the main finding was replicated in a cohort of 98 Spanish cases,
100 recruited using the same diagnostic criteria as the discovery cohort.

101

102 **Results:** GWAS identified rs71542416 within the Class II HLA region as the top hit
103 ($P = 2 \times 10^{-14}$); this was in linkage disequilibrium with *HLA-DRB1*10:01* (OR = 2.93 $P =$
104 5.4×10^{-7}) and *HLA-DQA1*01:05* (OR=2.93, $P=5.4 \times 10^{-7}$). Haplotype analysis identified
105 that *HLA-DRB1*10:01* was a risk factor even without the *HLA-DQA1*01:05* allele.
106 The association with *HLA-DRB1*10:01* was replicated in another cohort, with the
107 meta-analysis of the discovery and replication cohorts showing that *HLA-DRB1*10:01*
108 increased the risk of immediate hypersensitivity at a genome-wide level (OR = 2.96
109 $P=4.1 \times 10^{-9}$). No association with *HLA-DRB1*10:01* was identified in 268 patients
110 with delayed hypersensitivity reactions to β -lactams.

111

112 **Conclusion:** *HLA-DRB1*10:01* predisposed to immediate hypersensitivity reactions
113 to penicillins. Further work to identify other predisposing HLA and non-HLA loci is
114 required.

115

116

117 **Clinical implications:** This novel insight into the mechanisms of immediate
118 reactions associated with penicillins may be of use in risk stratifying patients where
119 penicillin cannot be excluded as an etiological agent.

120

121 **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

122 Predisposition to immediate hypersensitivity reactions to penicillins is mediated by
123 *HLA-DRB1*10:01*, and may help in risk stratifying patients where penicillin cannot be
124 excluded as an etiological agent.

125

126 **KEY WORDS:** Type I hypersensitivity, β -lactams, penicillins, cephalosporins,
127 allergy, anaphylaxis, pharmacogenomics.

128

129 **ABBREVIATIONS**

- ADR Adverse Drug Reaction
- AGEP Acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis
- BL β -Lactam
- DNA Deoxyribonucleic acid
- DRESS Drug reaction with eosinophilia and systemic symptoms
- GWAS Genome-wide association study
- HLA Human Leukocyte Antigen
- HPEPT1 human peptide transporter 1
- ITCH International Consortium on Drug Hypersensitivity
- OR Odds Ratio
- SJS/TEN Stevens-Johnson syndrome/toxic epidermal necrolysis
- SNP Single Nucleotide Polymorphism
- WTCCC Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium

130

131 **INTRODUCTION**

132

133 β -lactam (BL) antibiotics cause a wide spectrum of hypersensitivity reactions
134 (sometimes termed allergy). The self-reported incidence of BL allergy ranges from
135 1% to >10%¹, but in clinic populations most patients (~95%) are not found to be
136 truly allergic with validated skin testing and oral challenge. Indeed, a high proportion
137 are intolerant² as adverse effects such as diarrhea after the use BLs are often
138 mistakenly reported as allergy by patients.

139

140 True BLs hypersensitivity reactions are classified according to the time of onset of
141 the reaction following drug intake³. Immediate hypersensitivity reactions develop in
142 minutes or hours after drug intake and are due to cross-linking of specific IgE
143 molecules on the mast cell surface with release of vasoactive mediators such as
144 histamine leading to vasodilation, increased vascular permeability and smooth
145 muscle contraction⁴. Clinically this is manifested as urticaria, angioedema,
146 bronchospasm and hypotension. Anaphylaxis is the most severe and feared form of
147 immediate hypersensitivity. By contrast, delayed hypersensitivity reactions occurring
148 >6h after dosing are typically T-cell mediated and have variable manifestations
149 including maculopapular exanthem, DRESS (drug reaction with eosinophilia and
150 systemic symptoms) and Stevens-Johnson Syndrome/Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis³.

151

152 Medicines are amongst the main cause of fatal anaphylaxis with a mortality rate
153 higher than with other agents⁵. Penicillins and cephalosporins are still the two most
154 common drug classes associated with anaphylaxis⁶, with penicillins having a higher
155 incidence (1-5 per 100,000)⁷ compared to cephalosporins¹. Cross-reactivity between
156 penicillins, cephalosporin and other BLs not sharing an R1 or R2 side-chain is now
157 thought to be <2%^{8,9}.

158

159 Potential clinical risk factors for immediate hypersensitivity reactions are family
160 history, atopy, concomitant virus infections and the route of administration¹⁰.
161 Genetic predisposing factors have also been identified¹⁰: the most comprehensive
162 was an analysis of 107,398 single nucleotide polymorphisms which identified that the
163 *HLA-DRA* locus may protect against penicillin-induced immediate hypersensitivity

164 reactions¹¹. In order to further investigate the role of genetic factors in BL-induced
165 immediate hypersensitivity reactions, we have undertaken a GWAS (genome-wide
166 association study) of the largest deeply phenotyped patient cohort assembled so far.

167

168 **METHODS**

169

170 **Cases**

171 All subjects were recruited between 2009 and 2013 as part of International
172 Consortium on Drug Hypersensitivity (ITCH), involving 5 recruitment centers
173 worldwide (Australia, France, Italy, Spain, UK). The study was approved by ethics
174 committees in all countries, and all patients gave written informed consent.

175

176 We recruited 662 patients (the discovery cohort) with a diagnosis of immediate
177 hypersensitivity to BL antibiotics (table 1). The diagnosis of immediate
178 hypersensitivity was made in specialist allergy clinics, as per published criteria¹². All
179 patients required immunological assessment (total and specific IgE, skin testing
180 including skin prick and intradermal and/or oral provocation) as part of the inclusion
181 criteria. Independent adjudication of all cases was undertaken by NS and PF. For
182 replication of any signals, we separately recruited another 98 patients with
183 immediate hypersensitivity from a clinic in Spain, diagnosed according to the same
184 criteria.

185

186 To determine specificity of any signals identified in patients with immediate
187 hypersensitivity, we also evaluated 268 patients with delayed hypersensitivity
188 reactions across multiple beta-lactams. The diagnosis again was in accordance with
189 published guidance¹², and all cases were adjudicated by NS and PF. We also included
190 an additional 17 BL-induced delayed hypersensitivity reaction cases analyzed in Shen
191 et al¹³.

192

193 **Controls**

194 We used general population samples as study controls. This comprised 9217
195 European ancestry controls from multiple available sources enriching the group with
196 Spanish, Italian and north European origin samples since cases were mainly recruited
197 from those countries. We used the Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium

198 (WTCCC) (<http://www.wtccc.org.uk>), the population reference sample (POPRES)¹⁴,
199 PGX4000119¹³, LAM30004¹³ and Spanish Bladder cancer cohort (phs000346.v1)¹⁵
200 from dbGAP, Hypergenes cohort (<http://www.hypergenes.eu/>), the National Spanish
201 DNA Bank (<http://www.bancoadn.org/>), and TSI (Hapmap data). In addition, we also
202 recruited a group of 137 penicillin tolerant controls from Italy.

203

204 **Genotyping**

205 Genome-wide genotyping of DNA extracted from whole blood was performed at
206 the Broad Institute, Boston, for 662 cases with BL-induced immediate
207 hypersensitivity and 268 cases with delayed hypersensitivity reaction, and from 137
208 penicillin tolerant controls from Italy. In 474 (354 BL-induced immediate and 120 BL-
209 induced delayed) cases, the Illumina Infinium HumanCoreExome Bead Chip was used
210 while for 439 (308 BL-induced immediate and 131 BL-induced delayed) cases, the
211 Illumina HumanOmniExpress BeadChip was used. In this last batch, we also
212 genotyped 137 Italian penicillin tolerant controls. In addition, the BL-induced delayed
213 case group also included 17 β -lactam delayed hypersensitivity cases previously
214 genotyped by the Illumina IM Duo chip, extracted from a larger SJS/TEN study that
215 included multiple drugs, as described by Shen et al.¹³. Other control cohorts were
216 publicly available (Table S1). For each of the genotyping cohort, standard quality
217 control was conducted at both single marker and subject levels as previously
218 described¹³. This was followed by SNP and HLA imputation and amino acid analysis
219 (see supplement).

220

221 **Replication Cohort SNP and HLA genotyping**

222 The top associated imputed single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were validated
223 by SNP genotyping using either TaqMan, SNP genotyping assays (ThermoFisher
224 Scientific, Paisley, UK) or iPLEX MassArray genotyping platform (Agena Biosciences,
225 Hamburg, Germany). High resolution genotyping of *HLA-A*, *B*, *C*, *DRBI*, *DQAI* and
226 *DQBI* was performed by Histogenetics (Ossining, New York). Sequencing data files
227 were analyzed using Histogenetics' proprietary analysis software (Histomatcher and
228 HistoMagic) for HLA genotype calling. Allele assignments are based on IMGT/HLA
229 Database release version 2.21.0, dated April 2008 (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/imgt/hla/>).

230

231 **Statistical analysis**

232 The effect of population structure was assessed through principal component
233 analysis (PCA) using the smartPCA program from the EIGENSTRAT package
234 (version 3.0)¹⁶. Single marker and haplotype association analyses and heterogeneity
235 test analyses were carried out by PLINK 1.07¹⁷. The statistical association of each
236 marker, HLA alleles and SNPs, was determined in a logistic regression framework
237 with scores for the first seven principal components as covariates under an additive
238 model using PLINK. We used the same statistical test for sub-population analyses,
239 using two, seven and ten most significant principal components as covariates in
240 Italian, Spanish and North European populations, respectively. We set the genome-
241 wide traditional significance P-value threshold to 5.0×10^{-8} to correct for multiple
242 testing and MHC-wide significance threshold to 2.0×10^{-4} to correct for total number
243 of predicted alleles. When we obtained genome-wide significant signals, we tested
244 for independent effects from the neighboring variants by including the most
245 associated variants as a covariate and then testing the significance of others in the
246 region. All detailed analyses and Manhattan plots were performed with R (Version
247 3.0.2). Regional plots were drawn by LocusZoom¹⁸. Meta-analysis was performed
248 using a fixed-effect model in the *metafor* package ([http://www.metafor-](http://www.metafor-project.org/doku.php/metafor)
249 [project.org/doku.php/metafor](http://www.metafor-project.org/doku.php/metafor)).

250

251

252 **RESULTS**

253

254 **Patient cohorts**

255 The clinical characteristics of the patients are shown in table 1. Clinical
256 manifestations in the discovery cohort included angioedema (35%), bronchospasm
257 (24%) and urticaria (34%), while hypotension was reported in only 4% of cases. The
258 length of reaction in patients with immediate hypersensitivity was 2-11 days, while it
259 ranged from 21-26 days for patients with delayed hypersensitivity reactions. Patients
260 were included if they had positive diagnostic assessment, as highlighted in table 1.
261 Penicillins accounted for 75% of cases, with the most common culprit drug being
262 amoxicillin accounting for 58% of cases in the discovery cohort.

263

264 **Association with immediate reactions to beta-lactams**

265 We first conducted a genome wide association study on 662 patients of European
266 descent with immediate hypersensitivity reactions and 9217 previously genotyped
267 population controls matched for ethnicity. The total number of SNPs which were
268 included in the analyses after quality control was 4,265,742. The cases clustered
269 within three major groups (Italian, Spanish and Northern European, Figure S1) in
270 keeping with the self-reported ethnicity.

271

272 A genome-wide significant association was identified within the Class II HLA region,
273 rs71542416 being the top hit (OR=5.17; 95% CI 3.40-5.17; $P=2 \times 10^{-14}$; Table 2, Figure
274 1A and Figure S2). The frequency of rs71542416 in our control population was
275 comparable with publicly available sources (Table 2). HLA allele imputation using
276 HIBAG¹⁹ showed the *HLA-DRB1*10:01* (OR=2.95; 95% CI 1.99-4.36; $P=6.0 \times 10^{-8}$) and
277 *HLA-DQA1*01:05* (OR=2.93 95%CI 1.92-4.45 $P=5.4 \times 10^{-7}$) alleles to be significantly
278 associated with the immediate reactions, with consistent odds ratios (Table 2) and
279 were tagged by rs71542416 (r^2 0.76). Haplotype analysis identified that *HLA-*
280 *DRB1*10:01* was a risk factor even without the *HLA-DQA1*01:05* allele (Table S2).
281 *HLA-DRB1*10:01* was seen in 3% of cases and less than 1% of controls. The
282 frequency of the HLA alleles within the Italian penicillin tolerant controls was 10
283 times less than in the Italian general population (0.1% vs 1%).

284 The HLA allele effect size was similar across the three major clusters (heterogeneity
285 test $P = 0.11$) (Table 3). The positive predictions in cases were fully validated by
286 direct HLA typing. An additional 67 cases with low quality predictions in both the
287 loci were also typed. Among them, we found only one positive carrier for *HLA-*
288 *DRB1*10:01*. All cases were also genotyped for rs71542416 – this showed a
289 concordance of 99% between typed and imputed genotypes of rs71542416. *HLA-*
290 *DRB1*10:01* co-occurred with rs71542416 in 89% of the *HLA-DRB1*10:01* positive
291 patients, while 12% of all cases carried rs71542416 alone.

292

293 Including rs71542416 or the HLA alleles as covariates revealed a residual protective
294 effect of the *HLA-DRA* locus, tagged by rs114632839, an intronic gene variant, in
295 accordance with the findings of Gueant et al¹¹ (Table 2 and Figure S3A). Interestingly
296 GTEx analysis revealed that this variant was a strong eQTL for *HLA-DRB5* ($P =$
297 5.3×10^{-23}) and sQTL for the *HLA-DRB1* ($P = 1.1 \times 10^{-16}$), *HLA-DRB5* ($P = 1.1 \times 10^{-16}$) and
298 *HLA-DRB6* ($P = 1.1 \times 10^{-16}$) loci with the minor alleles showing a lower intron excision
299 ratio. Both effects were detected in whole blood and shared across other tissues
300 (Figure S3B).

301

302 A replication cohort of 98 patients with anaphylaxis induced by either amoxicillin or
303 amoxicillin-clavulanate (table 1) was recruited separately from Spain. We identified 7
304 individuals who were positive for *HLA-DRB1*10:01*, as confirmed by HLA typing.
305 Comparison using the 11 Spanish HLA typed cohorts reported in allelefrequency.net
306 provided a total of 3137 Spanish subjects (Figure S4) as ethnically matched
307 population controls. This analysis replicated the association with an odds ratio (OR)
308 of 2.80 (95% CI 1.17-6.71; Fisher Exact Test $P = 0.016$; Figure 1B).

309

310 Meta-analysis of the discovery and replication cohorts showed that *HLA-DRB1*10:01*
311 increased the risk of immediate hypersensitivity at a genome-wide level (OR=2.96;
312 95% CI 1.99-4.37; $P = 4.1 \times 10^{-9}$) (Figure 2). The sensitivity and specificity of the allele
313 is 0.06 and 0.98, respectively, while the positive and negative predictive values are
314 17% and 94% respectively.

315

316 The most significantly associated amino acid with immediate hypersensitivity
317 reactions was glutamate at position 10 (OR=2.72; 95% CI 1.81-4.08; $P=1.4 \times 10^{-6}$,
318 Table S3). Amoxicillin, amoxicillin-clavulanic acid and phenoxymethylpenicillin
319 showed the highest effect size (Table S4). Glutamate-10 co-occurred with other
320 amino acids (arginine-30, valine-31, alanine-38, tyrosine-40, proline-231, glutamine-
321 166) which had the same frequency in cases and controls as glutamate-10 and *HLA-*
322 *DRB1*10:01* (Table S3). However, association with these amino acids disappeared
323 after condition for either glutamate-10 or *HLA-DRB1*10:01* (Table S3). Interestingly,
324 glutamate-10 co-occurred with the shared epitope RRA at positions 70, 71 and 74,
325 previously associated with seropositive rheumatoid arthritis²⁰ and specific for the
326 *HLA-DRB1*10:01* allele. The ERRA haplotype increased risk (OR=2.72, $P=1.4 \times 10^{-6}$)
327 equivalent to that seen with glutamate-10 alone. None of the other risk/protective
328 amino acid motifs for seropositive rheumatoid arthritis²⁰ spanning positions 70 to 74
329 in the *DRB1* locus (such as “QRRAA” risk motif or “DERAA” and “DRRAA”
330 protective motifs) were associated with our phenotype.

331

332 **HLA analysis in patients with delayed hypersensitivity reactions**

333 To determine whether the association with *HLA-DRB1*10:01* was limited to patients
334 with immediate hypersensitivity reactions, we analyzed 268 patients with delayed
335 hypersensitivity to a variety of BLs (Table 1) using the same control set (Figure S1B).
336 No association was identified for *HLA-DRB1*10:01* ($n=249$; OR = 1.34; 95% CI 0.55-
337 3.26; $P=0.5$).

338

339 **Drug specific associations with immediate hypersensitivity**

340 *HLA-DRB1*10:01* was associated with penicillins as a class (OR=3.07), but not with
341 cephalosporins (Table 4). Among the penicillins, the strongest signals were for
342 amoxicillin (OR=3.48), amoxicillin clavulanic acid (OR=2.85) and phenoxymethyl
343 penicillin (OR=6.66) (Table 4). When we combined amoxicillin and amoxicillin
344 clavulanic acid cases (assuming that amoxicillin rather than clavulanic acid was the
345 culprit), the OR was 3.1 (95%CI 2.01-4.85; $P=4.0 \times 10^{-7}$). Additional drug-specific HLA
346 allele associations that we identified will need confirmation (Tables S5 and S6).

347

348 In the drug-specific analysis, a genome-wide signal (rs71437970) on chromosome 13
349 upstream of *SLC15A1* (Figure S5) was identified for the amoxicillin cases (OR= 2.94 P
350 = 3.8×10^{-9} , Table S6). This association was shared across the European
351 subpopulations and with amoxicillin-clavulanate cases (Tables S7 and S8). However,
352 we failed to replicate the association, with an allele frequency which was lower than
353 that observed in Spanish controls (0.007 vs 0.04).

354

355 **DISCUSSION**

356 We have identified an association between the SNP rs71542416 and immediate
357 hypersensitivity reactions to penicillins. The SNP does not affect gene expression in
358 GTEx but is in linkage disequilibrium with *HLA-DRB1*10:01* and *HLA-DQA1*01:05*.
359 Haplotype analysis identified that *HLA-DRB1*10:01* was a risk factor even without the
360 *HLA-DQA1*01:05* allele suggesting that *HLA-DRB1*10:01* may be the predominant
361 driver of the association. However, 12% of cases carried rs71542416 but were
362 negative for *HLA-DRB1*10:01* suggesting that the SNP may be a tag for other rare
363 HLA alleles, which is consistent with the hypothesis of Heap et al²¹ who showed an
364 association between *HLA-DQA1-HLA-DRB1* variants and thiopurine-induced
365 pancreatitis.

366

367 The association with *HLA-DRB1*10:01* and rs71542416 was most pronounced in the
368 Spanish cohort (Table 3), but given that the odds ratios were of similar magnitude in
369 all populations studied, there was overlap in the confidence intervals, and the
370 prevalence of the SNP and HLA allele, our findings can be generalized across the
371 European sub-ethnicities studied (Table 3). However, further studies will be needed
372 in both European and non-European populations to determine the global relevance
373 of this association. Additionally, the association was limited to immediate reactions
374 and was not observed with the delayed hypersensitivity reactions highlighting the
375 specific nature of the association. Evaluation of drug-specificity showed associations
376 with amoxicillin, amoxicillin-clavulanate and phenoxymethylpenicillin. However,
377 given the limited sample size with the other penicillins, we cannot exclude the
378 possibility of an association with all penicillins (Table 4). Similarly, we did not find an
379 association with cephalosporins, but this may also be because of a lower sample size.

380

381 The clear strength of our study is that all patients were deeply phenotyped: there
382 was a clear clinical history with a temporal relationship to drug intake, and the
383 diagnosis was confirmed immunologically by skin testing and/or oral provocation.
384 Such deep phenotyping is important because many patients claim to be penicillin
385 allergic, but very few are: of those claiming to be allergic, less than 1 In 20 have an
386 acute reaction to an oral challenge (the gold standard clinical test to confirm an IgE-
387 mediated reaction)²².

388

389 Our data adds to the increasing evidence of HLA in predisposing to different clinical
390 phenotypes of drug hypersensitivity reactions²³. The most well-known of these
391 associations is *HLA-B*57:01* and abacavir hypersensitivity²⁴, which has been
392 implemented into clinical practice and has resulted in a significant reduction in
393 abacavir hypersensitivity²⁵. It is important to note that most of the HLA associations
394 identified to date have been with delayed hypersensitivity reactions²³. However,
395 more recent studies have identified HLA alleles as predisposing factors for
396 immediate reactions. For instance, *HLA-DRB1*07:01* is a risk factor for the
397 development of anti-asparaginase antibodies and immediate reactions²⁶. Our data
398 showing that *HLA-DRB1*10:01* predisposes to immediate hypersensitivity is also
399 consistent with the pathogenesis of immediate reactions where the interaction
400 between B cells and CD4⁺/Th2-positive cells, through HLA class II alleles, is central
401 to the immunoglobulin switching that leads to the generation of specific IgE
402 antibodies. Different HLA alleles have been associated with other types of immune-
403 mediated reactions caused by BLs. For example, *HLA-B*57:01* predisposes to
404 flucloxacillin-induced cholestatic hepatitis²⁷, while liver injury caused by amoxicillin-
405 clavulanate is associated with the class II HLA haplotype *HLA-DRB1*1501-
406 DQBI*0602*²⁸. Mechanistic studies undertaken in our laboratory have shown that
407 drug-specific, HLA-restricted T cells can be isolated from patients with a past history
408 of liver injury due to flucloxacillin²⁹ and amoxicillin-clavulanate³⁰. It will be valuable to
409 conduct similar studies in patients with a history of penicillin-induced immediate
410 reactions to understand the mechanistic basis of the association with *HLA-
411 DRB1*10:01*.

412

413 Another potentially interesting finding in this study was the association between
414 *SLC15A1* gene variants and amoxicillin-induced immediate reactions. *SLC15A1*
415 encodes the human peptide transporter 1 (HPEPT1) which is known to transport
416 amoxicillin³¹. Therefore, it is plausible that variation in the activity of HPEPT1 could
417 result in altered amoxicillin pharmacokinetics and thereby increase risk of a type I
418 reaction. However, we were not able to replicate this finding, and further work
419 (including functional studies) to understand whether this gene is important in
420 predisposing to immediate reactions will be required.

421

422 What are the clinical implications of this finding? Given the rarity of penicillin-
423 induced anaphylaxis, the low population prevalence and sensitivity of *HLA-*
424 *DRB1*10:01*, and the very wide usage of penicillins, the prospective use of this allele
425 in screening patients before penicillin prescription would not be practical or feasible
426 in terms of both high numbers needed to test to prevent one case and patients
427 unnecessarily excluded from therapy. However, this association of immediate
428 penicillin hypersensitivity with *HLA-DRB1*10:01* may provide much novel insights into
429 the mechanisms of immediate reactions associated with penicillins, including the
430 mechanisms of sensitization and natural loss or waning of penicillin which is known
431 to occur over time. Moreover, the higher negative predictive value of the allele
432 (94%) may be of use in risk stratifying patients where penicillin cannot be excluded as
433 an etiological agent in the setting of an immediate reaction.

434

435 Our study has limitations. First, the overall sample size is small compared to that
436 used in complex diseases but is larger than that used in many pharmacogenomic
437 studies. Our efforts to identify deeply phenotyped patients in this study was a result
438 of an extensive international collaboration highlighting the difficulties in achieving
439 large sample sizes in pharmacogenomic studies. Furthermore, we were unable to
440 perform permutation testing to validate the replication P value for *HLA-DRB1*10:01*.
441 Second, because we used population controls, we could not adjust for self-reported
442 ethnicity, but this is unlikely to have had a major impact as we accounted for this
443 through an analysis of population stratification (figure S1). Third, matching cases and
444 controls for age, gender and other co-morbidities was not possible because of the
445 use of population controls, and because gender could not be determined due to the

446 absence of X chromosome SNP data. Whether this impacts on the association with
447 the genetic signals identified by us will require further study.

448

449 In summary, we have for the first time reported an association of *HLA-DRB1*10:01*
450 carriage in deeply immunologically phenotyped European ancestry individuals with
451 penicillin-induced immediate type I hypersensitivity reactions. However, we cannot
452 exclude the possibility of other HLA alleles or HLA haplotypes also being important
453 in conferring susceptibility in some patients, and therefore further work in both
454 European and non-European patients is required to identify other HLA alleles, and
455 also whether *HLA-DRB1*10:01* is universally important. It is also interesting to note
456 that we also identified that rs114632839 which is a proxy for the HLA-DRA locus
457 protected against the development of immediate hypersensitivity reactions to BLs,
458 consistent with a previous study¹¹. rs114632839 is an eQTL and sQTL for several
459 HLA loci suggesting that predisposition to immediate hypersensitivity to penicillins is
460 likely to be complex and mediated by a combination of susceptibility and protective
461 HLA and non-HLA alleles. Clearly we have reported associations, and proof of
462 causality will require a full understanding of the immunopathogenesis of initial
463 sensitization to penicillin, and in particular, the mechanism of antigen presentation
464 (including the relative importance of the BL ring vs the side chains) and interaction
465 with CD4⁺ T cells that ultimately leads to IgE-switching and the generation of
466 hapten-specific IgE antibodies.

467

468 **[3237 words]**

469

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473 genotyping. We also acknowledge the contribution of all our clinical collaborators
474 and the study participants.

475

476 **Author Contributions**

477 PN, DC and MP wrote the manuscript. PN, MRN, DC and MP designed the
478 research while PN, YS, AF undertook/supervised the data analysis. SB, LM, PSF,

479 NHS, AMC, NBL, JAC, FG, AN, MJT, CC, RLV, RKP, EP, PD, AR, MB and MP
480 contributed to patient recruitment, adjudication and data acquisition. All authors
481 contributed to, and approved, the final draft of the manuscript.

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606 **Figure Legend**

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608 **Figure 1** Genomic data in patients with immediate hypersensitivity reactions. **A:**
609 Manhattan plot displaying the association analysis undertaken in patients with
610 immediate hypersensitivity reactions to β -lactams (n=662). SNPs in green have a
611 significance level less than 5×10^{-6} and red have a significance level less than 5×10^{-8} . **B:**
612 Forest plot showing the effect size of the association between *HLA-DRB1*10:01* and
613 immediate reactions in the discovery and replication cohorts. For each analysis, the
614 odd ratio of the association is reported with 95% CI. The dimension of the squares is
615 proportional of the number of cases.

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620 **Table 1: Causative drugs and clinical variables broken down across the discovery**
 621 **and replication cohorts**

Clinical characteristics	Immediate hypersensitivity Discovery cohort (n = 662)	Immediate hypersensitivity Replication cohort (n = 98)	Delayed hypersensitivity cohort (n = 268)
Female (%)	416 (62%)	56 (57%)	174 (64%)
Age years: mean, SD* (%missing)	42.0, 16 (27%)	51.4, 12.3 (0%)	44.5, 20 (73%)
History of allergies (n with available information)	31% (658)	9% (98)	30.6% (268)
Number of ADRs*: mean, SD* (#available info)	1.1, 0.3 (659)	1.2 (0.5)	1, 0.2 (251)
Autoimmune disease diagnosis	9%	6%	7%
% positive skin test (of total number tested)	85% (578)	78% (67)	93% (204)
% positive prick test (of total number tested)	45% (142)	37% (82)	82% (207)
% positive oral provocation /re-challenge (of total number tested)	76% (106)	65% (20)	94% (17)
Clinical symptoms			
Immediate hypersensitivity manifestations [¶]	662 (100%)	98 (100%)	-
AGEP*	-	-	14 (5%)
DRESS*	-	-	7 (3%)
Mild reactions including maculopapular exanthem	-	-	212 (79%)
SJS/TEN*	-	-	36 (13%)
Drug Class			
Penicillin	501 (75%)	98 (100%)	246 (92%)
Cephalosporin	162 (25%)	-	20 (7.5%)
Other β -lactams	-	-	2 (0.01%)
Suspected causal drug			
Amoxicillin	165 (25%)	65 (66%)	77 (29%)
Ampicillin	36 (5%)	-	54 (20%)
Bacampicillin	20 (3%)	-	21 (8%)
Cefaclor	23 (3%)	-	-
Cefazolin	17 (3%)	-	4 (1.5%)
Cefotaxime	17 (3%)	-	-
Ceftazidime	18 (3%)	-	1 (0.4%)
Ceftriaxone	52 (8%)	-	4 (1.5%)
Cefuroxime	14 (3%)	-	2 (0.7%)
Co-amoxiclav	218 (33%)	26 (26%)	70 (26%)
Phenoxymethylpenicillin	24 (4%)	7 (7%)	5 (2%)
Piperacillin	18 (3%)	-	5 (2%)
Other	41 (6%)	-	25 (9%)

622 *ADRs: adverse drug reactions; AGEP: acute generalised exanthematous pustulosis, DRESS: drug reaction with
 623 eosinophilia and systemic symptoms; SD: standard deviation; SJS/TEN: Stevens-Johnson Syndrome/Toxic
 624 Epidermal Necrolysis. [¶]see text for nature of clinical manifestations

625 **Table 2: The most significantly associated variants for immediate hypersensitivity reactions to β -lactams**
 626

	Minor allele frequency			Association analysis		Association conditioned for HLA Haplotype [†]		Association conditioned for rs71542416	
	Cases	Controls	Population reference cohort	OR (95% CI)	P	OR (95% CI)	P	OR	P
<i>HLA-DRB1*10:01</i>	0.03	0.008	0.008	2.95 (1.99-4.36)	6.0×10^{-8}	-	-	0.60 90.19-1.85)	0.37
<i>HLA-DQA1*01:05</i>	0.03	0.01	0.01	2.93 (1.92-4.46)	5.4×10^{-7}	-	-	0.79 (0.32-1.91)	0.60
rs71542416	0.03	0.006	0.008	5.17 (3.40-5.17)	1.2×10^{-14}	8.22 (2.68-25.23)	0.0002	-	-
rs114632839 [#]	0.25	0.367	0.40	0.77 (0.67-0.89)	0.0003	0.69 (0.60-0.80)	1.1×10^{-6}	0.68 (0.59-0.79)	6.1×10^{-7}

627

628 Minor allele frequency for external data obtained from allelefrequency.net for HLA alleles or GnomAD for SNPs; OR= Odd ratio of the logistic regression model correcting
 629 for population stratification; 95% CI= 95% confidence intervals of the Odd Ratio; P = logistic regression p-value; [†]HLA haplotype was *HLA-DRB1*10:01- HLA-DQA1*01:05*.

630 [#]The marker rs114632839 has merged with rs3135392.

631

632 **Table 3: The association between *HLA-DRB1*10:01* and rs71542416, and β -**
 633 **lactam induced immediate hypersensitivity reactions across the different**
 634 **nationalities**

635

Ethnic cluster	Cases (n*)	Minor allele frequency Cases	Minor allele frequency Controls	OR (95% CI)	P
<i>HLA-DRB1*10:01</i>					
Italians	352	0.021	0.012	2.33 (1.15-4.73)	0.02
Spanish	226	0.049	0.014	3.81 (2.27-6.42)	4.74x10 ⁻⁷
Northern Europeans	61	0.025	0.004	3.93 (1.17-13.21)	0.03
rs71542416					
Italians	352	0.02	0.007	4.33 (1.98-9.49)	0.0002
Spanish	226	0.05	0.008	6.80 (3.89-11.87)	1.69x10 ⁻¹¹
Northern Europeans	61	0.02	0.004	4.42 (1.29-15.13)	0.02

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637 OR= Odd ratio of logistic regression model correcting for population stratification; 95%CI= 95%
 638 confidence intervals of the Odd Ratio; P = logistic regression p-value. *numbers represent
 639 homogeneous populations within clusters after PCA analysis.

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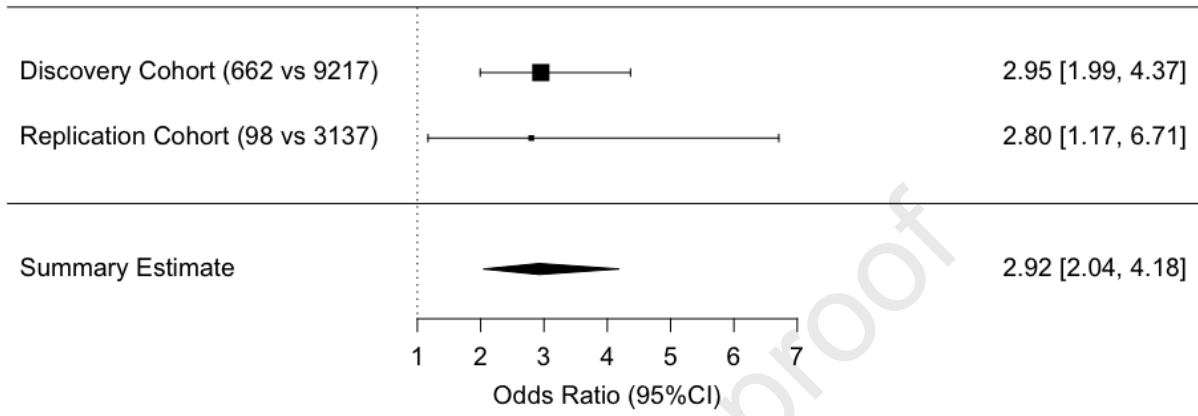
644 **Table 4: Effect size of the association of *HLA-DRB1*10:01* with immediate**
 645 **hypersensitivity reactions broken down by drug classes and individual drugs**
 646

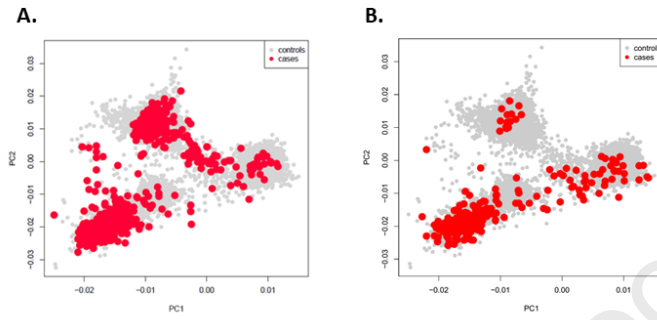
Drug	Ethnicity*	Cases (n)	Case MAF	OR (95% CI)	P
Cephalosporins	Caucasian	162	0.019	2.03 (0.82-5.07)	0.13
Cefaclor	Caucasian	23	0	-	-
Cefazolin	Caucasian	17	0.059	6.12 (1.32-28.30)	0.02
Cefotaxime	Italian	17	0	-	-
Ceftazidime	Italian	17	0	-	-
Ceftriaxone	Italian	48	0.010	1.05 (0.13-8.33)	0.96
Cefuroxime	Caucasian	14	0.050	2.90 (0.37-22.76)	0.31
Penicillins	Caucasian	501	0.036	3.07 (2.04-4.62)	7.42x10 ⁻⁸
Amoxicillin	Caucasian	166	0.042	3.48 (1.92-6.28)	3.74x10 ⁻⁵
Ampicillin	Italian	29	0.014	1.98 (0.25-15.79)	0.52
Co-Amoxiclav	Caucasian	218	0.034	2.85 (1.60-5.10)	0.0004
Phenoxymethylpenicillin	Caucasian	25	0.080	6.66 (2.14-20.79)	0.001
Piperacillin	Caucasian	18	0.028	2.32 (0.29-18.78)	0.43
Bacampicillin	Italian	21	0.024	2.09 (0.26-17.03)	0.49

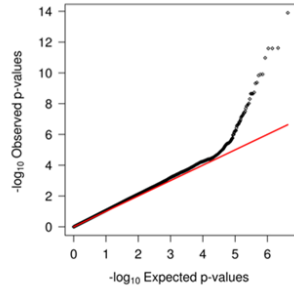
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 648 *Ethnicity – Caucasian is applied to patients of Spanish, Italian and Northern European descent and
 649 confirmed by PCA analysis. Where only one nationality was available for a particular drug, this is
 650 indicated and only appropriate matching controls were chosen.

- 651 OR= Odd ratio of logistic regression model correcting for population stratification;
652 95% CI= 95% confident intervals of the Odd Ratio; P = logistic regression p-value;
653 MAF; minor allele frequency

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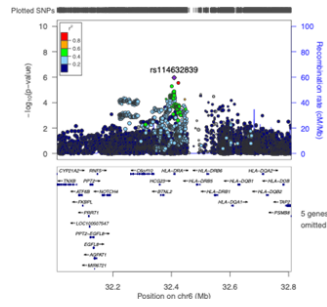




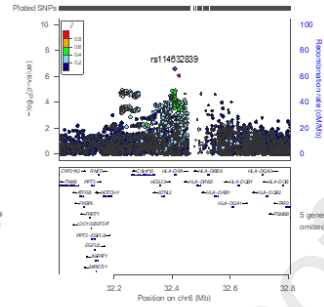


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B.



Line	Allele	Population	% of individuals that have the allele	Allele Frequency (in_decimals)	Sample Size
1	DRB1*10:01	 Germany DKMS - Spain minority		0.0131	1,107
2	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Andalusia		0.0150	99
3	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Andalusia Gipsy		0.0460	99
4	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Arraba Valley Basque		0.0130	83
5	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Barcelona	2.9	0.0140	941
6	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Catalonia Girona		0.0000	88
7	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Gipuzkoa Basque		0.0000	100
8	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Granada		0.0200	280
9	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Murcia		0.0080	173
10	DRB1*10:01	 Spain North Cabuerniga		0.0100	95
11	DRB1*10:01	 Spain North Cantabria		0.0120	83
12	DRB1*10:01	 Spain Pas Valley		0.0160	88

