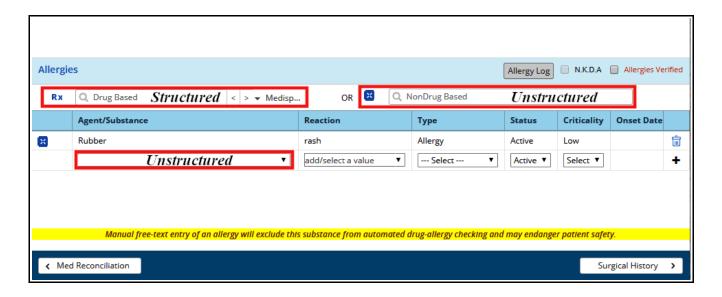
Entering an Allergy in ECW 11e

Allergies can be entered, deleted, and updated in a progress note, a Virtual Visit, or in the Hub.

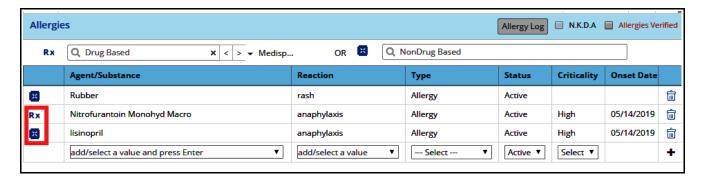
Drug allergies entered in the box next to "Rx" are structured – meaning they are NDC-linked and will function both in the allergy alert system and the drug interaction system of eCW. Anything entered in the nondrug-based box is unstructured, as is anything free-texted into the allergy box shown just below the rubber allergy. ALWAYS enter drug allergies using MedispanRx in the drug-based box at the upper left of the screen below.

As the warning highlighted in yellow states, any drug allergy free-texted into the box just under the rubber allergy will fail to trigger both the allergy warnings as well as the drug interaction warnings – possibly leading to patient harm (or even death).

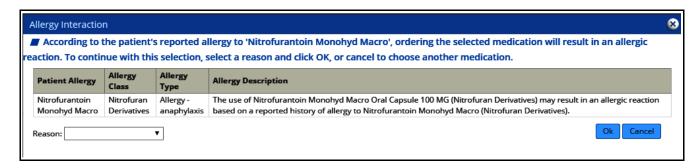


In this screen, I have entered an allergy to nitrofurantoin correctly – using the drug-based allergy box, which pulls the NDC number from MedispanRx.





The screen above shows nitrofurantoin as a structured allergy (with the "Rx" next to it). The lisinopril was entered by just typing the drug name in the box rather than using MedispanRx to search for it. The icon to the left of it indicates that it is unstructured, and not linked to an NDC number. When prescribing nitrofurantoin to this patient, I got the following alert:



However, when I prescribed lisinopril to this patient, I got no alert at all. When the day gets busy, and there is a rush to finish a visit, checking for allergies prior to prescribing may be overlooked. The allergy alert system is there to act as a backup check when medications are prescribed. If a serious drug allergy is added incorrectly, serious harm to the patient can occur. ALWAYS use the MedispanRx

database when adding a drug allergy. If you come across an drug allergy that is unstructured, correct it.

Allergies to nondrugs – like cat dander, ragweed, bee strings, etc. – are handled as unstructured data by eCW, and can be free-texted into the allergy box.

