

ANAPHYLAXIS PROCEDURE

SCHOOL RESPONSE

When a school is notified that a child has been diagnosed with a life-threatening allergy and is prescribed an epinephrine auto-injector, this procedure is followed:

- 1) The Unified Referral and Intake System (URIS) Group B Application will be completed, if agreed upon by the parent/guardian.

If the child does not bring their epinephrine auto-injector to school, the parent is informed that the student does not qualify for URIS Group B support. If the student experiences an anaphylactic reaction, an ambulance will be called to transport the student to the hospital and the parent/guardian will be notified.

- 2) The principal will submit the URIS Group B Application to the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA) URIS nurse. The student's information will be registered on the River East Transcona School Division student information system.

Emergency Response Protocol

The emergency response implemented for students with anaphylaxis is in the WRHA Anaphylaxis Standard Health Care Plan including:

- 1) Administration of the epinephrine auto-injector;
- 2) Calling 911/EMS and transport of the student to hospital by ambulance;
and
- 3) Contacting the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student.

The Anaphylaxis SHCP also includes student's life-threatening allergen(s) and the type, dosage and location of their epinephrine auto-injector.

Location of epinephrine auto-injectors

Students shall carry their own epinephrine auto-injector on their person at all times with instructions for use. If the student is not developmentally able to carry the epinephrine auto-injector, it will be kept in an unlocked, safe, easily accessible location.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Ensuring the safety of children with life-threatening allergies in a school setting depends upon the understanding and support of the entire school community. To minimize the risk of exposure, and to ensure a rapid response to an emergency, parents/guardians, students, and school staff must all understand and fulfill their responsibilities. The interrelatedness of these roles is vital, as failure of any group to respond appropriately will negatively impact upon all others.

(1) Responsibilities of the Child with Life-Threatening Allergy

- (a) Take as much responsibility as possible for avoiding allergens, including checking food labels (as developmentally appropriate).
- (b) Eat only foods brought from home.
- (c) Wash hands before and after eating.
- (d) Learn to recognize symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction.
- (e) Promptly inform an adult, as soon as accidental exposure occurs or symptoms appear.
- (f) Carry their epinephrine auto-injector on their person at all times (e.g., fanny pack)
- (g) Know how to use their epinephrine auto-injector.

(2) Responsibilities of the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of a Child with Life Threatening Allergies

- (a) Inform the school of their child's life-threatening allergies.
- (b) Complete required documentation including the URIS Group B Application and Authorization of Administration for Prescribed Medication ((JLCD-E1).
- (c) Complete the WRHA Anaphylaxis Standard Health Care Plan (SHCP) annually.
- (d) Ensure their child has and carries an epinephrine auto-injector that is not expired and clearly labelled with the child's name.
- (e) Ensure the child takes the epinephrine auto-injector on field trips/excursions.

ANAPHYLAXIS PROCEDURE

- (f) Be willing to provide safe foods for their child for special occasions.
- (g) Consider their child wear medical identification (e.g., MedicAlert bracelet).
- (h) Teach their child to:
 - (i) Recognize the first symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction;
 - (ii) Communicate clearly when they feel a reaction starting;
 - (iii) Carry their epinephrine auto-injector or know where the medication is stored;
 - (iv) Not share food or drinks;
 - (v) Report bullying and threats to an adult in authority; and
 - (vi) Take as much responsibility as possible for their safety.

(3) Responsibilities of the Principal

- (a) Submit a URIS Group B Application to the URIS nurse.
- (b) Identify a contact person to liaise with the URIS nurse, if other than him/herself.
- (c) Develop a plan for avoiding allergens within the school.
- (d) Ensure school staff is aware of avoidance strategies established by the school.
- (e) Ensure the parent(s)/guardian(s) has completed the required forms.
- (f) Ensure the Authorization of Administration for Prescribed Medication ((JLCD-E1) is on file.
- (g) Maintain up-to-date emergency contacts and telephone numbers.
- (h) Ensure the WHRA Anaphylaxis Standard Health Care Plan is completed annually for each student with a life-threatening allergy.
- (i) Inform school staff of the student(s) with life-threatening allergies, their allergens, and the location of their epinephrine auto-injector.

ANAPHYLAXIS PROCEDURE

- (j) Ensure school staff and, where appropriate, lunch hour supervisors and bus drivers have received training related to anaphylaxis from the URIS nurse.
- (k) Ensure substitute teachers are informed of the presence of students with life-threatening allergies in the classroom and that appropriate support/response is available should an emergency occur.
- (l) Ensure staff is aware of the student's life-threatening allergen(s), the location of the student's epinephrine auto-injector, and its location.
- (m) Post allergy alert forms in a secure and accessible location.
- (n) If not deemed appropriate for the student to carry an epinephrine auto-injector, ensure that it is kept in an unlocked, safe, easily accessible location.
- (o) Ensure that safety procedures are developed for field trips and extra-curricular activities.
- (p) Establish a disciplinary procedure for dealing with bullying and threats.

(4) Responsibilities of the Teacher

- (a) Be aware of students with anaphylaxis, their life-threatening allergy(s) and location of their epinephrine auto-injector.
- (b) Display a poster in the classroom that includes the emergency response to an anaphylactic reaction.
- (c) Implement the plan for avoiding allergens established by the school.
- (d) Discuss anaphylaxis, in age-appropriate terms, with the class.
- (e) Ensure substitute teachers are aware of the students with life-threatening allergies in the classroom.
- (f) Plan appropriately for field trips. Ensure the epinephrine auto-injectors are taken on field trips. Ensure the student's epinephrine auto-injector is taken on field trips and emergency response plans are considered when planning the trip. Ensure appropriate avoidance strategies are in place when planning overnight excursions (e.g., camp) and/or food is provided by an external agency.

ANAPHYLAXIS PROCEDURE

(5) Responsibilities of the URIS Nurse

- (a) Review and sign the Anaphylaxis Standard Health Care Plan annually.
- (b) Consult with the parent(s)/guardian(s), student, student's physician(s), school administration, classroom teacher, and other relevant personnel as needed.
- (c) Provide information to parent(s)/guardian(s), students, and school personnel as needed.
- (d) Provide training and monitoring to school staff that is responsible for students with anaphylaxis.

(6) Responsibilities of All Parents in the School Community

- (a) Support requests from school to eliminate allergens from packed lunches and snacks.
- (b) Encourage their children to respect the needs of their peers with life threatening allergies.
- (c) Inform the teacher prior to distribution of food products to any children in the school.

(7) Responsibilities of all Children in the School (developmentally appropriate)

- (a) Follow school rules established related to anaphylaxis and avoidance of allergens.
- (b) Refrain from bullying or teasing a child with a known risk of anaphylaxis.

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| Legal/Cross Reference: | JLCD-E1 – Authorization of Administration for Prescribed Medication; JJE – School Fundraising | |
