



# Anaphylaxis Policy

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## Introduction

### **Introduction**

This policy provides guidance to staff for the management of students who have had an anaphylactic response to food.

*Anaphylaxis can cause death if not treated appropriately and quickly.*

## Definition

### **Definition**

Anaphylaxis is a rapidly evolving generalised multi-system allergic reaction characterized by one or more symptoms or signs of respiratory and/or cardiovascular involvement and involvement of other systems such as the skin and/or the gastrointestinal tract.

In short it is a severe and potentially life threatening allergic response.

## Symptoms

### **Symptoms**

#### Respiratory:

- Difficulty/noisy breathing
- Swelling of tongue
- Swelling/tightness in throat
- Difficulty talking and/or hoarse voice
- Wheeze or persistent cough

#### Cardiovascular:

- Loss of consciousness
- Collapse
- Pale and floppy (in young children)
- Hypotension

## Management Strategies

### **Management**

The following strategies have been put into place to manage the risk associated with anaphylaxis.

## First Aid Registrar

### **1. First Aid Registrar**

A staff member will be identified early in the year to fill the role of First Aid Registrar . This position will attract a *special payment*. Among other duties, the registrar will ensure each student's Anaphylaxis plan is reviewed and medications replaced annually.

## Individual Management Plan

### **2. Anaphylaxis Management Plan**

Every students diagnosed with anaphylaxis will have an *Anaphylaxis Management Plan*. This document will contain the following information supplied by the student's parent in consultation with their family doctor:

- Name of child/adult
- Allergic triggers



# Anaphylaxis Policy

## Consultation with parents and students

- o Carer contact details
  - o Symptoms and signs indicating when to use the EpiPen
  - o Instructions on how to use the EpiPen.
- Anaphylaxis Management Plans are stored in the school's First Aid Room.

## Location of Epi-pens

### 3. Parent / Student consultation

The registrar will consult with parents annually to ensure that medication and Management Plans are current. Parents and students will be consulted if significant changes are proposed to this policy or management strategies

## Additional Epi-pens for Emergencies

### 4. Location of Epi-pens

A current Epi-pen will be supplied to the school by the student's parent. These Epi-pens will be stored in the Staff room and are for the *exclusive* use of its owner.

In addition, the school has one adult dosage (300ml) Epi-pen and one child dosage (15ml) Epi-pen. These Epi-pens are stored in the *Teacher's Yard Duty Bag*. The additional Epi-Pens can be used in an emergency situation.

## Identification of students

The **adult dosage** Epi-pen is in a **blue** container which has the names of students who require this dosage attached.

The **child dosage** Epi-pen is in a **yellow** container which has the names of students who require this dosage attached.

## Professional Development

### 5. Identification of students

The name and a photograph of each student who has anaphylaxis will be displayed beside their own Epi-pen in the staff room. In addition their name will be listed on a card attached to the emergency Epi-pens, as described above.

## Replacement Staff Information

### 6. Professional Development

The Registrar will attend appropriate training / conference annually to ensure that the school's strategies are appropriate. All staff will be provided with Professional Development from the Registrar annually, usually during a staff meeting.

### 7. Replacement Staff

Replacement teachers are given an Information Folder about the class they are teaching. Prominent in this information pack is the identity of any student in that class who has anaphylaxis. In addition, there is a brochure showing how to administer an Epi-pen.

Replacement for Specialists teachers have the names and grades of all students with anaphylaxis in their Information Folder



# Anaphylaxis Policy

## Evaluation

### Evaluation of Policy and management Strategies

This policy will be reviewed annually following the Registrar's Professional Development session.

## Resources

### Resources

Further information can be obtained from:

- *Anaphylaxis support groups*
- *Web based resources*
- *Royal Children's Hospital*
- *Doutta Galla Community Health Care*