

POLICY: ANAPHYLAXIS MANAGEMENT

PURPOSE

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. To reduce the risk of anaphylaxis occurring, the following measures will be put in place: knowledge of those students who have been diagnosed at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens), and prevention of exposure to these triggers. Partnerships between schools and parents are important in ensuring that certain foods or items are kept away from the student while at school.

AIMS

- To provide, as far as practicable, a safe and supportive environment in which students at risk of anaphylaxis can participate equally in all aspects of the student's schooling
- To raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis management policy
- To engage with parents/carers of students at risk of anaphylaxis in assessing risks, developing risk minimisation strategies and management strategies for the student
- To ensure that each staff member has adequate knowledge about allergies, anaphylaxis and the school's policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction

IMPLEMENTATION

- The school will fully comply with Ministerial Order 706 and the DET Anaphylaxis Guidelines, February 2014 and future amendments made by the DET.
- Food banning is not recommended in the Anaphylaxis Guidelines. A 'no-sharing' food approach is encouraged at the school.
- The school will purchase an adrenaline autoinjector/s for general use and as a back up to those supplied by parents. The principal will determine the number of additional adrenaline autoinjectors required.
- The principal will ensure that an individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan is developed, in consultation with the student's parents, of any student who has been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis.
- The individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be in place as soon as practicable after the student enrolls, and where possible before their first day of school.
- The individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will set out the following:
 - ~information about the diagnosis, including the type of allergy or allergies the student has (based on a diagnosis from a medical practitioner);
 - ~strategies to minimise the risk of exposure to allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of school staff, for in-school and out of school settings including camps and excursions;
 - ~the name of the person/s responsible for implementing the strategies; and
 - ~information on where the student's medication will be stored and the student's emergency contact details
- The school will implement prevention strategies to minimise risks:
 - ~liaise with parents about food related activities;
 - ~use non-food treats;
 - ~foods eaten by student will be supplied by parents
 - ~be aware of the possibility of hidden allergies in food and other substances in classes (e.g. egg or milk cartons, empty peanut butter jars);
 - ~ensure all cooking utensils are washed and cleaned thoroughly
 - ~regular discussions about the importance of washing hands, eating their own food and not sharing food;
 - ~casual relief teachers to be informed of the student's allergy and individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan;

- ~canteen staff to be informed of student's allergy and an ASCIA Action Plan displayed in canteen;
- ~canteen staff should demonstrate satisfactory training in food allergen management and its implications on food-handling practices, including knowledge of the major food allergens triggering anaphylaxis, cross-contamination issues specific to food allergy, label reading etc.;
- ~The principal may determine that the canteen staff has up to date training in an Anaphylaxis management training course;
- ~the canteen will agree to not to stock peanut and tree nut products, including chocolate/hazelnut spreads; and
- ~the student will not purchase items from the canteen unless parent authorises the purchase.
- ~yard duty teachers will carry a folder identifying students with medical conditions and emergency cards. All staff will be aware of the Emergency Response Procedures and how to notify the office of the anaphylactic reaction.
- ~students with anaphylactic responses to insects should be encouraged to stay away from flowering plants.
- ~parents will be consulted if the student is attending a camp to either supply the food or an alternative menu will be supplied as authorised by the parent. The camp cook to should demonstrate satisfactory training in food allergen management and its implications on food-handling practices, including knowledge of the major food allergens triggering anaphylaxis, cross-contamination issues specific to food allergy, label reading etc.
- ~local emergency services and hospitals are to be contacted prior to the camp and contact details of emergency services are distributed to all staff.
- ~an adrenaline autoinjector for general use is to be taken on camp even if there are no students at risk of anaphylaxis, as a backup device in the event of an emergency.
- ~A Work experience student with an allergy will provide an ASCIA Action Plan and their adrenaline autoinjector.
- The student's individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be reviewed, in consultation with the student's parents/ carers:
 - ~annually, and as applicable;
 - ~if the student's condition changes; or
 - ~immediately after a student has an anaphylactic reaction at school.
- An emergency procedure plan (ASCIA Action Plan) is developed that:
 - ~sets out the emergency procedures to be taken in the event of an allergic reaction;
 - ~is signed by a medical practitioner who was treating the child on the date the practitioner signs the emergency procedures plan; and
 - ~ includes an up to date photograph of the student.
- It is the responsibility of the parent to:
 - ~provide the emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan); and
 - ~ inform the school if their child's medical condition changes, and if relevant provide an updated emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan).
- The Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be reviewed:
 - ~annually;
 - ~if the student's medical condition, insofar as it relates to allergy and the potential for anaphylactic reaction, changes;
 - ~as soon as practicable after the students has an anaphylactic reaction at school; and
 - ~when the student is to participate in an off-site activity, such as camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the school (e.g. class parties, cultural days, fetes)
- The principal will be responsible for ensuring that a communication plan is developed to

provide information to all staff, students and parents about anaphylaxis and the school's anaphylaxis management policy.

~the communication plan will include information about what steps will be taken to respond to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in a classroom, in the school yard, on school excursions, on school camps and special event days.

~casual relief staff of students at risk of anaphylaxis will be informed of students at risk of anaphylaxis and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction by a student in their care.

- All staff will be briefed once each semester by a staff member who has up to date anaphylaxis management training in last 12 months on:
 - ~the school's anaphylaxis management policy;
 - ~ the causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis;
 - ~ the identities of students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis and where their medication is located;
 - ~how to use an autoadrenaline injecting device (adrenaline given through an autoinjector to the muscle of the outer mid thigh is the most effective first aid treatment for anaphylaxis);
 - ~the school's first aid and emergency response procedures; and
 - ~the location of, and access to, adrenaline autoinjector that have been provided by parents or purchased by the school for general use.

- The principal will ensure:
 - ~teachers and other school staff who conduct classes who are attended by students who are at risk of anaphylaxis must have up to date training in an anaphylaxis management training course;
 - ~at other times while the student is under the care or supervision of the school, including excursions, yard duty, camps and special event days, the principal must ensure that there is a sufficient number of staff present who have up to date training in anaphylaxis management training course; and
 - ~staff will be trained every three years.

- The principal will complete an annual Risk Management Checklist as published by DET.

EVALUATION

The policy will be reviewed as necessary.