

Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction that may involve systems of the entire body. Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency that requires immediate medical treatment and follow-up care by an allergist/immunologist. Some common life threatening allergens are peanuts, tree nuts, fish, bee or other insect stings, latex, and some medications. Affected students require planned care and support during the school day and during school sponsored activities. Additionally, any student could potentially have a life threatening allergic reaction even without a history of such.

The University Place School District Board of Directors expects appropriate school staff to be informed and aware of life threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) and how to deal with the resulting medical emergencies.

Parents/guardians are responsible for informing the school about their student's potential risk for anaphylaxis and for ensuring the provision of ongoing health information and necessary medical supplies. The district will take reasonable measures to avoid allergens for affected students. The district will also train appropriate staff in the awareness of anaphylaxis and prepare them to respond to emergencies. Additionally, student specific training will be provided for appropriate personnel.

Even with the district's best efforts, staff and parents/guardians need to be aware that it is not possible to achieve a completely allergen-free environment. However, the district will take reasonable precautions to reduce the risk of a student with a history of anaphylaxis coming into contact with the offending allergen in school.

As a precaution, schools may maintain a supply of undesignated epinephrine auto injectors for use in circumstances where life-threatening anaphylactic emergencies occur and/or designated epinephrine auto injectors are unavailable.

Whenever undesignated epinephrine auto injectors are kept at school sites for use in emergencies specific procedures must be followed. The school's supply of epinephrine auto injectors does not negate parent/guardian responsibility to ensure that they provide the school with appropriate medication and treatment orders pursuant to RCW 28A.210.320 if their student is identified with a life-threatening allergy.

The superintendent will establish procedures to support this policy and to ensure:

1. Rescue protocol in cases of suspected anaphylaxis follow OSPI's Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis (2009);
2. A simple and standardized format for emergency care plans is utilized;
3. A protocol is in place to ensure emergency care plans are current and completed;
4. Medication orders are clear and unambiguous;
5. Appropriate training and documentation is in place;
6. Each school's supply of designated and undesignated epinephrine auto injectors, if any, are procured, maintained and used pursuant to manufacturer's instructions, standing order protocols and district medication policies and procedures.

Cross References: 3420 - Anaphylaxis Prevention and Response

3419 - Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications
3416 - Medication at School

Legal References: WAC 392-380 PUBLIC SCHOOL PUPILS—IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT AND LIFE-THREATENING HEALTH CONDITION
RCW 28A.210.383 Anaphylaxis — Policy guidelines — Procedures — Reports.

Management Resources: 2018 - August Issue
2013 - December Issue
2012 - August Issue
2009 - February Issue
OSPI, March 2009 Guidelines for the Care of Students with Anaphylaxis

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