



Anaphylaxis Management Policy

Policy Dates:

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Anaphylaxis Management Policy

Anaphylaxis is a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction that is potentially life threatening. Anaphylaxis is a medical emergency that requires a rapid response. This policy complies with Ministerial Order No 706 and government guidelines on Anaphylaxis management.

The key to prevention of anaphylaxis in schools is knowledge of those students who have been diagnosed at risk, awareness of triggers (allergens) and prevention of exposure to these triggers. The most common allergens in school aged children include: peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame, latex, certain insect stings and medication

Children diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis are prescribed adrenaline in an auto-injector commonly known as an EpiPen®. An EpiPen® is to be administered to a student with anaphylaxis in an emergency situation. Children under 20kg are prescribed an EpiPen® Junior and those 20kg and above an EpiPen®.

Purpose

- 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 work 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 College's policy and procedures in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.
- To raise awareness about anaphylaxis and the College's Anaphylaxis Management Policy in the College Community.

Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plans

- (a) The Principal or their nominee will develop an individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan, for all students who have been diagnosed by a medical practitioner as being at risk of anaphylaxis. The Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be developed in consultation with the student's parents/guardians.
- (b) The Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will be put into place as soon as practicable after the student enrolls and where possible before the student's first day of school.
- (c) The Individual Anaphylaxis Management Plan will set out the following:
 - (i) Information about the diagnosis, including the type of allergy or allergies which a medical practitioner has diagnosed the student as having
 - (ii) A list of strategies aimed at minimising the risk of exposure to allergens while the student is under the care or supervision of school staff, for all in-school and out of school settings including excursions and camps.
 - (iii) The name of the person/s responsible for implementing the strategies.
 - (iv) Information on where the student's medication will be stored.
 - (v) The student's emergency and contact details.
 - (vi) An emergency Procedures Plan (Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy Action Plan), provided by the parent, 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.
- (d) The Individual Management Plan will be reviewed, in consultation with the student's parents:
 - (i) annually and/or when the epipen expires
 - (ii) if the student's medical condition changes
 - (iii) immediately after a student has an anaphylactic reaction at school.



- (e) It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to:
 - (i) provide the emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan)
 - (ii) inform the school if their child's medical condition changes, and if relevant provide an updated emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan).
 - (iii) provide a current photograph for the emergency procedures plan (ASCIA Action Plan) when the plan is provided to the school and when it is reviewed.

Communication Plan

- (a) The Principal is responsible for ensuring that a communication plan is developed to provide information to all staff, students and parents about anaphylaxis and the College's anaphylaxis management policy.
- (b) The communication plan includes information about the steps which 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.
- (c) Volunteers and casual relief staff of students at risk of anaphylaxis will be informed about the students in their care and their role in responding to an anaphylactic reaction.
- (d) All staff will be briefed once each semester by a staff member or medical professional who has up to date anaphylaxis management training on:
 - (i) the College's Anaphylaxis Management Policy
 - (ii) the causes, symptoms and treatment of anaphylaxis
 - (iii) the identities of students diagnosed at risk of anaphylaxis and where their medication is located;
 - (iv) how to use an autoadrenaline injecting device
 - (v) the College's First Aid and emergency response procedures

Staff Training

- (a) Relevant school staff who supervise or come into contact with students at risk of anaphylaxis must have successfully completed a relevant anaphylaxis management training course. This must be updated every 3 years.
- (b) When the student is under the care or supervision of the College including: excursions, yard duty, camps and special event days, the Principal will ensure that there will be a sufficient number of staff present who have up to date training in an anaphylaxis management training course.
- (c) The First Aid Manager will be responsible for briefing new staff, including casual relief staff about students at risk of anaphylaxis and the College's Policies.

Emergency Response Procedures

- (a) The College's First Aid procedures and students emergency procedures plan (ASCIA) will be followed in response to an anaphylactic reaction.

Risk

- (a) An annual Risk Management Checklist will be completed by the First Aid Manager to avoid the risk of anaphylactic reactions.
- (b) Back up adrenaline autoinjectors (epipens) are available for general use in the case of emergency. The First Aid Manager is responsible for the purchase and maintenance of these pens

