



Anaphylaxis – sometimes called “allergic shock” or “generalized allergic reaction”, is a severe allergic reaction that can lead to rapid death, if untreated. Avoidance of the allergen is the only way to protect children known to be at risk of anaphylaxis, however Western School Division cannot guarantee an allergen-free environment.

Clear procedures for an emergency response to anaphylaxis must be in place in each school.

The first plan of action calls for the administration of adrenaline by auto-injection (epi-pen) **immediately**, at the first sign of a reaction. An ambulance will be called immediately and the student transported to hospital.

## PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

Ensuring the safety of children with known risk of anaphylaxis in a community setting depends on the co-operation of the entire community. To minimize risk of exposure, and to ensure rapid response to an emergency, parents/guardians, children and program personnel must all understand and fulfil their responsibilities. The inter-relatedness of these roles is vital, for failure of any group to respond appropriately will negatively impact upon all others.

### 1. The school will endeavour:

- a) To create a safe and healthy environment for students with severe life-threatening allergies;
- b) To do so without exceeding the attention required for those particular students;
- c) To be aware of those students’ needs to maintain a positive self-concept.

### 2. Responsibilities of the child with a life-threatening allergy:

- a) Take as much responsibility as possible for avoiding allergens, including checking labels and monitoring intake (developmentally appropriate).
- b) Avoid known and potential allergens.
- c) Wash hands before and after eating.
- d) Learn to recognize symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction (developmentally appropriate).
- e) **Promptly** inform an adult, as soon as accidental exposure occurs if symptoms appear (developmentally appropriate).
- f) Wear a medical identification bracelet.
- g) Keep an auto-injector on their person at all times i.e. fanny pack (developmentally appropriate).
- h) Know how to use the auto-injector (developmentally appropriate).

### 3. Responsibilities of the Parents/Guardians of a child with a “life-threatening allergy”:

- a) Identify their child’s allergies and needs to the school.
- b) Ensure that their child has and carries an up-to-date auto-injector or the auto





- l) Arrange an annual in-service through the RHA URIS Nurse to train staff and monitor personnel involved with the child with life-threatening allergies.
- m) Ensure a Standard Health Care Plan, which includes an Emergency Response Plan, is completed and reviewed annually for each child with a life-threatening allergy.