

# HAMPTON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ANAPHYLAXIS ALLERGY  
MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED: May 9, 2016

REVISED:

## 209.1 Anaphylaxis Allergy Management

### Purpose

The Hampton Township School District is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff. For this purpose, the board directs the establishment by the superintendent or her/his designee(s), and the implementation by all staff, of a comprehensive anaphylaxis allergy management plan. Efforts will be made to accommodate students with known life-threatening allergies, however the district cannot guarantee that a student will never experience an allergy related event while at school.

The District requires any student enrolling in the school district with a life-threatening allergy to have an Allergy Action Plan completed each school year by the parent/guardian and their physician, in conjunction with the school nurse.

The District expects parents/guardians to follow the directives listed on these forms and provide the necessary medication(s) for the treatment of allergic reactions each school year, as ordered by their physician, in accordance with the district medication policy.

### Definitions

- **Allergen**- any substance that causes an allergic reaction.
- **Allergic reaction**- immune system response to a certain substance that the body mistakenly interprets as harmful.
- **Allergy**- immune system reaction to a certain substance. The substance is mistakenly determined by the body to be harmful and antibodies are created. With subsequent exposures, histamine is released causing an allergic reaction. The most common allergies are food related, latex and insect stings.
- **Anaphylaxis**- sudden, severe allergic reaction that involves various areas of the body simultaneously. It is life- threatening and in extreme cases it can cause death.
- **Antihistamine**- medication used to block the effects of histamine, a chemical that is released during an allergic reaction; for example, an epinephrine auto-injector.
- **Cross contamination**- one food comes into contact with another and their proteins mix. Each food then contains small amounts of the other.
- **Epinephrine**- medicine of choice for controlling severe anaphylactic reactions. It is available by prescription.

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### **Food Allergy Considerations**

Lesson plans that involve food must be reviewed, making sure supplies do not contain allergens listed in any student's Allergy Action Plan.

In order to avoid cross contamination, students should wash their hands with soap and water before eating.

Teachers and nurses should work with students with food allergies to help them understand that they should not accept food from anyone other than a designated staff member.

On the elementary level, the "no sharing, no trading" of food in the cafeteria will be enforced.

Staff should be trained on cross contamination prevention from hands, utensils and surfaces when foods containing known allergens are prepared and/or served.

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The superintendent or her/his designee(s) is responsible for the establishment of a comprehensive allergy management plan.

#### • Parent/Guardian Responsibility

- Parents/Guardians of students with allergies will inform the school nurse.
- Parents/Guardians of students with life-threatening allergies will complete an Allergy Action Plan in cooperation with the school nurse.
- Parents/Guardians will provide the school with the properly labeled medication prescribed by their physician for the treatment of allergic reactions.
- Parents/Guardians of students with allergies will inform the school of any changes in student allergies or medications.

#### • School Staff Responsibility

- School nurses will work with parents/guardians of students with life-threatening allergies in completing an Allergy Action Plan for school use at the start of each school year or upon enrollment in the district.
- School nurses will use the Allergy Action plan received from the parents/guardians for physician medication orders as well as the basis for the Allergy Action Plan.
- School nurses will educate school staff on the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to initiate the emergency protocol.
- School nurses will have stock epinephrine and Benadryl for use with students with known anaphylaxis emergencies and also for students with first-time anaphylaxis emergencies.
- Classroom teachers will be provided a copy of the Allergy Action Plan for each of their students who have a plan. Classroom teachers will have the opportunity to discuss with the nurse any questions they have regarding the plan and their role in following the plan. Teachers will keep a copy of each Allergy Action Plan in their substitute teacher folders.
- School staff, excluding registered nurses, volunteering to administer an epinephrine auto-injector for students with known anaphylactic reactions must follow Act 195 of 2014. According to Act 195, any school staff trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector must be trained using a course approved by the Department of Health.
- The classroom teachers will communicate with the school nurse when planning field trips. The nurse will determine how to provide for the safest environment for students with allergies.

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The Classroom teachers will limit or reduce the use of potential allergens during classroom parties, celebrations, or special events.</li><li>○ Teasing, bullying or harassing a student with known allergies will not be tolerated.</li><li>○ Student confidentiality will be maintained.</li><br/><li>● <u>Student Responsibility</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Students need to be proactive in the care and management of their allergies.</li><li>○ Students who carry their epinephrine auto-injectors must sign the Student Agreement in the Allergy Action Plan.</li><li>○ Students need to notify an adult immediately if they have had contact with an allergen.</li><li>○ Students with food allergies shall not trade or share food with others and are not to eat any food with unknown ingredients or food that is known to contain their allergen(s).</li></ul></li></ul> |
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