



September 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Parents and guardians should be aware of the District's procedures for students who experience a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction or narcotic overdose while in school. **Because treatment will include Benadryl (diphenhydramine) and epinephrine, it is your responsibility to notify the school nurse in writing upon receipt of this letter if your child has ever had a reaction to either treatment**

I. **Students with Known Life-Threatening Condition: School Nurse will follow written orders of family physician – MD.** Family physician orders and parental permission for treatment should be submitted by the family and kept in student's chart in the Health Office. Medication will be kept in Health Office or carried by student, if ordered by student's Family physician.

II. **Unexpected Reactions - no history of allergies but develops symptoms (itching, flushing, urticaria, angioedema)-note- if angioedema involves lips or tongue or voice changes occur, this will be considered a life-threatening, medical emergency-See Section A below:**

- Nurse will look in mouth to observe for tongue swelling
- Nurse will check student's blood pressure and pulse and compare with previous recordings in chart. If significantly lower, this will be considered an emergency.
- If insect sting, apply ice.
- Benadryl by mouth (see below).
- Report to parent and physician.
- Observe progress of symptoms.

A. **Unexpected Severe, Life-Threatening Reactions (no previous history):**

Symptoms include– swelling (especially eyes and tongue), difficulty breathing, change in voice, altered consciousness, light headedness, poor circulation, wheezing, drop in blood pressure, weak, rapid pulse, cold sweaty skin.

Immediate First Aid –

- Administer Epi-Pen injection
Under 50 lbs. – 0.15cc (Epi-Pen Jr.) Over 50 lbs. – 0>3cc (Epi-Pen)
- Call 911 for transport to hospital
- Notify Administrator and parent
- Repeat Epi-Pen dose at 5 minutes if symptoms do not lessen or if they worsen.
- Follow with Benadryl

Under 50 lbs. – 1 tsp. (12.5 mg) Over 50 lbs. – 2 tsp. (25 mg)

III. **In the event Narcan (naloxone-an opiate (narcotic) antidote) needs to be administered - -**

1. It will be given according to the Board of Education policy
2. 911 will be called for transport to the hospital.
3. Parents and Administrator will be notified.

IV. **Use of Albuterol:**

If the student's personal physician has ordered albuterol, students are allowed to carry their prescribed medication or it may be kept in the Health Office for its use as needed. The written personal physicians order must be submitted by the family to be kept on file in the school nurse's office. The Health Office will also keep stock albuterol for students with a personal physician's written order on file with the school nurse.

I you have any further questions, please contact the health office in your child's school.

Sincerely,

William Maliha

William Maliha, MD Medical Director, Saugerties Central School District