

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.

The Garfield and Palouse Board of Directors expects school administrators, teachers and support staff to be informed and aware of life threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) and how to deal with the resulting medical emergencies. For students, 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.

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 all 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 precautions to reduce the risk of a student having an anaphylactic reaction by developing strategies to minimize the presence of allergens in schools.

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

1. Rescue protocol in cases of suspected anaphylaxis will 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. Training and documentation is a priority.

Cross References:

3419 - Self-Administration of Asthma and Anaphylaxis Medications
3418 - Emergency Treatment
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: 2013 –December Issue
 2012 - August Issue
 2009 - February Issue
 OSPI, March 2009 Guidelines for the Care of Students with
 Anaphylaxis

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