

Anaphylaxis Emergency Response Protocol/MERT

Be Prepared

Know which students have anaphylaxis and where their medicine is kept. Treating symptoms promptly is best practice. Common symptoms of anaphylaxis include:

- Repetitive coughing/Wheezing
- Difficulty/discomfort when breathing/swallowing
- Many hives or redness
- Pale or bluish skin color
- Shortness of breath
- Swelling of tongue/lips
- Repetitive vomiting/diarrhea
- Impending sense of doom
- Combination of symptoms from different body systems

Call 911 if:

- ❖ Student is struggling to breathe, talk, stay awake, has blue lips, or asks for an ambulance.
- ❖ Student is given epinephrine auto injector.
- ❖ No epinephrine auto-injector is available, the student's symptoms have not improved spontaneously, and nurse/designee or parent/guardian is not available.
- ❖ You are unsure what to do.
- ❖ Call 9-1-1 immediately:
 - Make call from location of incident, if possible.
 - Use speaker mode on phone, if possible.
 - Be prepared to provide EMS Dispatcher with location name and address and the entrance door number nearest to the emergency situation.
 - Don't hang up the phone until instructed to do so by the EMS Dispatcher.
- ❖ Notify front office of Medical Emergency.
- ❖ **Announcement** (OVER-HEAD; WALKIE-TALKIE) to alert trained Medical Emergency Response Team (MERT) members:
"Attention Staff and Students We are now going into Lock-in (Verbiage for all to stay in place) for a medical emergency in Room _____. MERT team please respond."

- ❖ Available MERT members immediately carry out assigned tasks.
 - Take AED, student medication, stock epinephrine auto-injector and any emergency medical supplies and medication to location.
 - Inform Central Administration of Emergency.
 - Contact parents. Meet them in the parking lot.
 - Meet the ambulance.
 - Unlock the gate/door/ direct traffic
 - Copy the medical records of the student. Provide to EMS.
 - Control the scene. Clear the area by directing uninvolved students to alternate location
 - Document emergency situation and response on Emergency Response/Incident Report form
 - Conduct debriefing session of incident and response following the event.
- ❖ MERT members immediately initiate the student's specific Anaphylaxis Emergency Care Plan (ECP) – if no ECP on file, employ Basic First Aid/CPR/AED training.
 - NEVER LEAVE A STUDENT ALONE.
 - Help the student be calm and in a comfortable position.
 - Help the student locate and take his/her prescribed epinephrine auto-injector.
 - If student does not have an epinephrine auto-injector, administer stock epinephrine auto-injector.
 - Repeat epinephrine auto-injector in 5 minutes if student is still having trouble breathing.
- ❖ **If breathing stops or becomes ineffective, start CPR, and use AED**
- **Ensure that 9-1-1 has been called.**

When logical and possible, initiate actions simultaneously.