



WYMONDHAM
COLLEGE



MANAGEMENT OF AUTO ADRENALINE INJECTORS AND ANAPHYLAXIS

Introduction

Anaphylaxis is a severe and often sudden allergic reaction. It can occur when a susceptible person is exposed to an allergen (such as food or an insect sting). Reactions usually begin within minutes of exposure and progress rapidly but can occur up to 2 – 3 hours later. It is potentially life threatening and always requires immediate emergency response.

Common allergens that can trigger anaphylaxis are:

- 1) Foods eg peanuts, tree nuts, milk, dairy food, egg, wheat, seafood, celery and soya.
- 2) Insect stings eg bee, wasp.
- 3) Medication eg antibiotics, pain relief such as Ibuprofen.
- 4) Latex eg rubber gloves, balloons, swimming hats.

Up to 8% of children in the UK have a food allergy however the majority of allergic reactions to food are not anaphylaxis, most reactions present with mild to moderate symptoms.

Symptoms

The main symptoms of a severe allergic reaction are:

- Generalised flushing of the skin
- Nettle rash (hives) anywhere on the body
- Sense of impending doom
- Swelling of throat and mouth
- Difficulty in swallowing or speaking
- Alteration in heart rate
- Severe asthma
- Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting
- Sudden feeling of weakness (drop in blood pressure)
- Collapse and unconsciousness
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Adrenaline Auto Injectors

The Human Medicines Amendment regulations 2017 now allow schools in the UK to buy adrenaline auto-injector devices (AAIs) (Appendix 1) without prescription to use in an emergency on students who are at risk of severe allergic reaction known as anaphylaxis but whose own device is not available or not working or out of date.

The AAI(s) held by the College/Prep School provide a spare/back-up device and are not a replacement for a student's own AAI(s).

Secondary School- Students at risk of anaphylaxis are required to carry two of their prescribed adrenaline auto-injectors at school for emergencies at all times.

Prep School- Students where deemed appropriate by Prep School staff, are required to carry two AAI's whilst on the school site. If they are not able to carry these themselves, they will be in designated areas in the Prep School and Boarding House with all staff knowing where they are and how to access them in an emergency. Although they need to be in a safe place away from other students, they should not be kept behind any locks.

Secondary School- Each student that has a known allergy and medical diagnosis has a healthcare plan specific to their individual needs drawn up. The Medical Centre team will send templates to parents on receipt of a school admission form or contact from parents to inform

of any allergy. This is agreed by parents/carers and signed by them. Once completed copies are emailed by the Medical Centre to all staff with direct responsibility for that student and are available to all staff via the Shared area accessed via:

[Home](#)

All staff with direct responsibility for individual students are expected to make themselves aware of this information (Indicated by the Medical Alert on Brom Com).

A register of all students who have been prescribed an adrenaline pen is available on share point.

The emergency Adrenaline auto-injector kits are held; in the entrance corridor to the Staff Room, Lincoln Hall canteen, and the Medical Centre will hold 3 kits, (they will also be able to provide kits for trips outside the College). Each kit contains a laminated list of students for whom AAI's are agreed.

These kits will be checked by the Medical Centre Team on a half termly basis or after each use if this comes first.

When students who have been prescribed an AAI are off site an emergency adrenaline auto-injector kit must be collected from the Medical Centre by the trip leader.

Prep School - Each student that has a known allergy and medical diagnosis has a healthcare plan specific to their individual needs drawn up. The Medical Centre team will send templates to parents on receipt of a school boarding admission form or contact from parents to inform of any allergy. This is agreed by parents/carers and signed by them. Once completed copies are emailed by the Medical Centre to all staff with direct responsibility for that student and are available to all staff via the Shared area.

All staff with direct responsibility for individual students are expected to make themselves aware of this information (Indicated by the Medical Alert on Brom Com).

A register of all Prep School boarding students who have been prescribed an adrenaline pen is available on sharepoint

The emergency Adrenaline auto-injector kits are held; in the main Prep School and Prep School boarding house. Each kit contains a laminated list of boarding students for whom AAI's are agreed.

These kits will be checked by the Medical Centre Team on a half termly basis or after each use if this comes first.

When boarding students who have been prescribed an AAI are off site an emergency adrenaline auto-injector kit must be collected from the Medical Centre by the trip leader.

Emergency procedure for a severe allergic reaction

In the event of a possible severe reaction on a student who has not been prescribed an AAI call 999 immediately.

For students who have been prescribed an AAI but it is not available or is out of date;

- At the first sign of a severe allergic reaction use an emergency adrenaline auto-injector from the emergency kit.
- This can be given through clothes, and should be injected in the outer upper thigh, in line with the instructions provided by the manufacturer.

- Call 999 for an ambulance and give clear and precise directions to the emergency operator including postcode.
- Monday to Friday 08.00–20.00 and Saturday 08.00-16.30 if you are on the College campus call the Medical Centre on 3291 (emergency phone) direct dial 01953 609027 or mobile 07974 071056 for urgent help.
- Keep calm and reassure the student.
- If symptoms persist following the administration of the adrenaline auto injector, administer the second injector 5 to 15 minutes after the first.
- If the student stops breathing resuscitation measures must be taken immediately

If the emergency adrenaline auto-injector is used for any student, put the AAI back in the emergency kit and inform the Medical Centre. Med Centre staff will arrange for the AAI to be replaced and will review the incident.

Training

College staff with responsibility for student care must have a basic understanding of anaphylaxis, have an awareness of symptoms, have training in giving an adrenaline auto – injector (Appendix 2) training, and know what to do in an event of an emergency. In order to achieve this annual staff training to relevant staff will include:

- how to recognise the range of signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction;
- understanding the rapidity with which anaphylaxis can progress to a life-threatening reaction, and that anaphylaxis may occur with prior mild (eg skin) symptoms;
- the need to administer adrenaline without delay as soon as anaphylaxis occurs, before the patient might reach a state of collapse (after which it may be too late for the adrenaline to be effective);
- how to access the register;
- awareness of how to access the emergency AAI kit;
- ihasco online school anaphylaxis training
- Opportunity to physically practise administering an adrenaline pen

The kit contains:

A flowchart of the signs of an allergic reaction
 A list of students who have been prescribed an AAI and the dose
 2 x 300mcg adrenaline auto-injector
 Instructions for use
 An administration record
 Guidance on replacing AAI

REFERENCES

- 1) Department of health- Guidance on the use of adrenaline auto-injectors in schools
- 2) Royal College of Paediatrics and child health
- 3) Allergy UK
- 4) Anaphylaxis Campaign
- 5) Benedicts law