

Policy Title: Epinephrine Administration

~~The Minidoka County School District believes that t~~The safety and wellbeing of children who are at risk of anaphylaxis is a ~~whole~~ community responsibility. Anaphylaxis is a severe systemic allergic reaction from exposure to allergens that is rapid in onset and can cause death. The Board of Trustees wishes to promote awareness of such health risks to students and to provide training and resource at the school level to diagnose and treat student anaphylaxis issues. ~~Common allergens include animal dander, fish, latex, milk, shellfish, tree nuts, eggs, insect venom, medications, peanuts, soy, and wheat. A severe allergic reaction usually occurs quickly; death has been reported to occur within minutes. An anaphylactic reaction can occur up to one to two hours after exposure to the allergen.~~

Symptoms of Anaphylaxis

- ~~• Shortness of breath or tightness of chest; difficulty in or absence of breathing~~
- ~~• Sneezing, wheezing or coughing~~
- ~~• Difficulty swallowing~~
- ~~• Swelling of lips, eyes, face, tongue, throat or elsewhere~~
- ~~• Low blood pressure, dizziness and/or fainting~~
- ~~• Heart beat complaints: rapid or decreased~~
- ~~• Blueness around lips, inside lips, eyelids~~
- ~~• Sweating and anxiety~~
- ~~• Itching, with or without hives; raised red rash in any area of the body~~
- ~~• Skin flushing or color becomes pale~~
- ~~• Hoarseness~~
- ~~• Sense of impending disaster or approaching death~~
- ~~• Loss of bowel or bladder control~~
- ~~• Nausea, abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhea~~
- ~~• Burning sensation, especially face or chest~~
- ~~• Loss of consciousness~~

Although anaphylactic reactions typically result in multiple symptoms, reactions may vary. A single symptom may indicate anaphylaxis. **Epinephrine should be administered promptly at the first sign of anaphylaxis. It is safer to administer epinephrine than to delay treatment for anaphylaxis.** (The part I suggested deleting is more like legislative history than policy. It could be included in the training materials.)

As used in this policy, the following definitions shall apply:
(a) "Administer" means the direct application of an epinephrine auto-injector to the body of an individual.

(b) "Designated school personnel" means an employee, agent or volunteer of a school designated by the governing authority of a school who has completed the training to provide or administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a student.

(c) "Epinephrine auto-injector" means a device that automatically injects a premeasured dose of epinephrine.

(d) "Provide" means the supply of one (1) or more epinephrine auto-injectors to an individual.

(e) "School" means any public or nonpublic school.

(f) "Self-administration" means a student or other person's discretionary use of an epinephrine auto-injector, whether provided by the student or by a school nurse or designated school personnel pursuant to the provisions of this section.

Pursuant to Idaho Code 33-520A, the Board of Trustees ~~The governing authority~~ of a school may authorize school nurses and designated school personnel to do the following:

A. Provide an epinephrine auto-injector to a student to self-administer the epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with a prescription specific to the student on file with the school nurse;

B. Administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a student in accordance with a prescription specific to the student on file with the school nurse; and

C. Administer an epinephrine auto-injector to any student or other individual on school premises that the school nurse or designated school personnel in good faith believes is experiencing anaphylaxis regardless of whether the student or other individual has a prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector. ~~(SB 1327)~~

Part C of this policy is not intended to replace student specific orders or parent provided individual medications. This policy does not extend to activities off school grounds. Each school shall provide at least two stock epinephrine auto-injectors.

The Board of Trustees shall do the following:

(a) Require each school that maintains a stock supply and administers epinephrine auto-injectors to submit a report of each incident at the school or related school event involving a severe allergic reaction or the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector to the Board of Trustees or its designee; and

(b) Establish detailed standards for training programs that must be completed by designated school personnel in order to provide or administer an epinephrine auto-injector in accordance with this section. Such training may be conducted online and, at a minimum, shall cover:

(i) Techniques on how to recognize symptoms of severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis;

- (ii) Standards and procedures for the storage, administration and disposal of an epinephrine auto-injector; and
- (iii) Emergency follow-up procedures.

Building level administration shall be responsible for identifying at least 3 employees, in addition to the school nurse, to be trained in the administration of epinephrine. Training shall be conducted annually or more often as needed. Such training shall cover:

- i. Techniques on how to recognize symptoms of severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis;
- ii. Standards and procedures for the storage, administration, and disposal of an epinephrine auto-injector; and
- iii. Emergency follow-up procedures.

In addition to the training of these select personnel, annual training will be provided to all staff on how to recognize symptoms of severe allergic reactions, and will be conducted annually.

Epinephrine will be stored in a safe, locked, accessible location, in a dark place at room temperature. The expiration date and medication stability of the epinephrine will be checked monthly by the school nurse. The epinephrine auto-injectors shall be properly disposed of in a sharps container.

There shall be no civil liability for any damages for a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, physician's assistant or pharmacist providing a prescription or standing protocol for school epinephrine auto-injectors consistent with the standard of care for the provider. Further, there shall be no civil liability for damages for a school or its employees or agents for any injuries that result from the administration or self-administration of an epinephrine auto-injector regardless of whether authorization for use was given by the student's parents, guardian or medical provider provided the actions taken in administering or providing the injector were reasonable under the circumstances. The liability protections in this section do not apply to acts or omissions constituting gross negligence, those that are reckless or that constitute willful and wanton behavior.

Epinephrine emergency procedure shall be as follows:

- ~~1. Based on symptoms, determine that an anaphylactic reaction is likely occurring~~
- ~~2. Act quickly. Determine proper dosed auto-injector. Administer medication as per training by school nurse.~~
- ~~3. Direct someone to call 911, remain calm, stay with person until EMS arrives~~
- ~~4. Call parents/guardian~~

5. ~~Fill out Report of Epinephrine Administration, and notify school nurse within 24 hours. Report shall be given to the school administrator, school nurse, and if applicable, placed in school health record.~~

(Perhaps it's best to develop the emergency procedures in the training materials or as an addendum to the policy.