

**MOOSE FACTORY ISLAND
DISTRICT SCHOOL AREA BOARD**

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE NO. 315	
Effective	
Revision Date	

ANAPHYLAXIS IN THE SCHOOL

PURPOSE

The Moose Factory Island District School Area Board seeks to ensure that all students are provided with safe and healthy environments, including an allergen-safe environment.

This administrative procedure has been developed in order to minimize the danger to each student with an anaphylactic allergy at school or at a school related event.

DEFINITIONS

Anaphylaxis: Anaphylaxis is an instant allergic reaction in all the major body organ systems. Unless there is a medical intervention, the victim may suffer a drop in blood pressure, loss of consciousness, and death. This can occur within minutes of exposure to the triggering substance. Even a small amount of the allergen can be fatal.

Triggering Substances: In addition to peanuts, the foods most frequently implicated in anaphylaxis are tree nuts (e.g. hazel nuts, walnuts, almonds, cashews), cow's milk, and eggs. Fish, shellfish, wheat, and soy are potentially lethal allergens as well and anaphylaxis is occasionally induced by fruits and other foods. Non-food triggers of anaphylaxis reactions include insect venom, medications, latex and, rarely, vigorous exercise.

Emergency Response: The emergency response to an anaphylactic reaction is the administration of adrenalin by syringe, usually with an Epi-Pen or Anakit. The adrenalin can be easily and safely administered with these devices by non-medical personnel with minimum training. The Epi-Pen is particularly easy to administer.

PROCEDURES

1. Principal's Role

1.1. The Principal shall:

- a) ensure that upon registration, parents, guardians, and students supply information on life-threatening allergies;
- b) communicate to parents at the beginning of each year the need to provide up-to-date information about treatment and/or other allergies as soon as they are known;

- c) develop an individual plan for each student who has an anaphylactic allergy;
- d) maintain a file for each anaphylactic student of current treatment and other information, including a copy of any prescriptions and instructions from the student's physician or nurse, and a current emergency contact list;
- e) ensure that occasional teachers as well as regular staff are aware of students with anaphylactic allergies; and
- f) contact the public health department regarding public health pre-school assessments.

2. The Individual Plan

2.1. The individual plan for a pupil with an anaphylactic allergy shall include:

- a) details regarding the type of allergy, monitoring and avoidance strategies, and appropriate treatment;
- b) a readily accessible emergency procedure for the student, including emergency contact information; and
- c) storage for epinephrine auto-injectors where necessary.

3. Avoidance Strategies

3.1. The school principal and staff shall implement avoidance strategies to minimize the exposure of all students with allergies to:

- a) Peanuts and nuts
- b) Other foods (e.g. milk, wheat, fish, shell-fish, soy, egg) as identified by the student's physician
- c) Insects causing anaphylactic reactions (e.g. bees, wasps)
- d) Latex products (e.g. gloves, balloons)
- e) Scented products.

4. Communication and Training

4.1. A communication plan shall be developed for the dissemination of information on life-threatening allergies to parents, students, and staff members.

4.2. Staff members and others who are in direct contact with students shall receive training on dealing with life-threatening allergies, including the use of an auto-injector (e.g. Epi-Pen) at least once a year.

4.3. The Board shall provide the school with an auto-injector training device.

4.4. The Moose Factory Island District School Area Board authorizes staff, where a student or staff member is known to have anaphylactic reactions, to respond to a perceived anaphylactic reaction with an auto-injector device. Staff members have the assurance that they will not be held responsible for any adverse reactions resulting from such administration. In all such cases, staff members will also seek medical attention immediately.

- 4.5. Staff members will review Administrative Procedure 315 Anaphylaxis in the School Procedural Guide each year and other resource materials provided by the administration.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Legal References:

Sabrina's Law, 2005 An Act to protect anaphylactic pupils

Guideline OSR—Ontario Student Record (OSR) Guideline, clause 3.1.5 Special Health Information

Board References:

Administrative Procedure 305 School Registration Requirements

Administrative Procedure 315 Anaphylaxis in the School Procedural Guide

Form ADMIN 315-01 Extreme Allergy Management and Prevention Plan

[Teacher/Office Copy]

Form ADMIN 315-02 Extreme Allergy Management and Prevention Plan

[Staff Room Copy]

Form ADMIN 315-03 Parent/Guardian Waiver: Administration of the Epi-Pen

Form ADMIN 315-04 Parent/Guardian Waiver: Field Trips and Outdoor Education