



Life Threatening
Allergies Natick
Public Schools



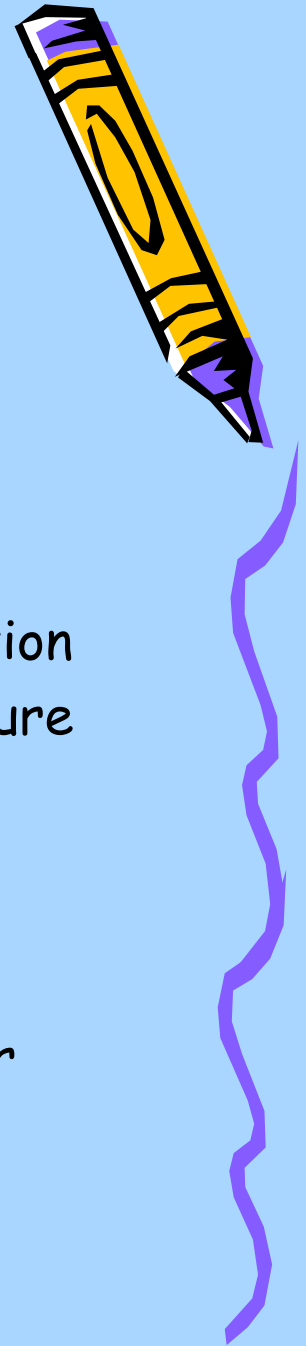
Anaphylaxis

- **Background:**
- Anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe, potentially fatal, systemic allergic reaction (LTA), that can involve various body systems, such as respiratory, circulatory, gastro-intestinal and the skin. Symptoms occur within minutes to two hours after ingestion of the offending allergen.
- Natick Public Schools cannot guarantee to provide an allergen free environment for all students with life-threatening allergies. The purpose of these guidelines is to minimize the risk of exposure to food allergens that pose a threat to those students, and to educate the Natick Public School community about food allergies, and maintain a system-wide protocol to respond to their needs. A system wide effort requires the co-operation of all groups of people within the system.



Student Responsibilities

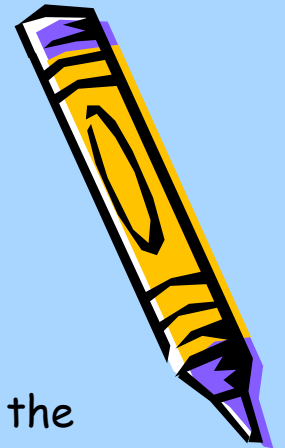
1. Take responsibility for avoiding allergens
2. Do not trade or share foods
3. Wash hands before and after eating
4. Learn to recognize the symptoms of an allergic reaction
5. Promptly inform an adult as soon as accidental exposure or symptoms appear
6. Consider wearing a medic alert identification
7. Report bullying, teasing and/or threats to an adult in authority
8. When developmentally appropriate be responsible for carrying your EpiPen



Family Responsibilities

1. Notify the school nurse of your child's allergies prior to the start of the school year (or as soon as possible after diagnosis).
2. Provide a list of foods and/or ingredients that would cause a life threatening reaction to the school nurse.
3. Provide medical documentation from your health care provider, including medication orders for Epinephrine.
4. Meet with the school nurse and teacher and participate in developing your child's individual health care plan.
5. Provide the school nurse with up-to-date epinephrine autoinjectors. A supply of two EpiPens per student with a life-threatening allergy is recommended. Deliver those medications in the proper containers no later than the first day of school.
6. Provide and maintain a current home, cell, work, pager number to school nurse.
7. Complete and sign required parental permission slips.

Provide the school nurse with an annual update of your child's allergy status, and provide written documentation from your health care provider if it is determined that your child no longer has life-threatening allergies.



Family Responsibilities (cont)



9. If possible, attend field trips with your child.
10. Provide the school with safe snacks to be used as noted in the Individual Health Care Plan.
11. Provide your child with medical alert identification and encourage them to wear it.
12. Provide the school nurse with a current photo of your child. (multiple copies)
13. Ensure that the before and after school staff have the appropriate information and training regarding your child's life-threatening allergy.
14. Ensure your child's knowledge in the self management of his/her allergy as developmentally appropriate.
15. Contact the Director of Food and Nutrition Services in regards to menu choices.
16. Notify the bus company if your child will be carrying an EpiPen on the bus.



School Administrator Responsibilities:

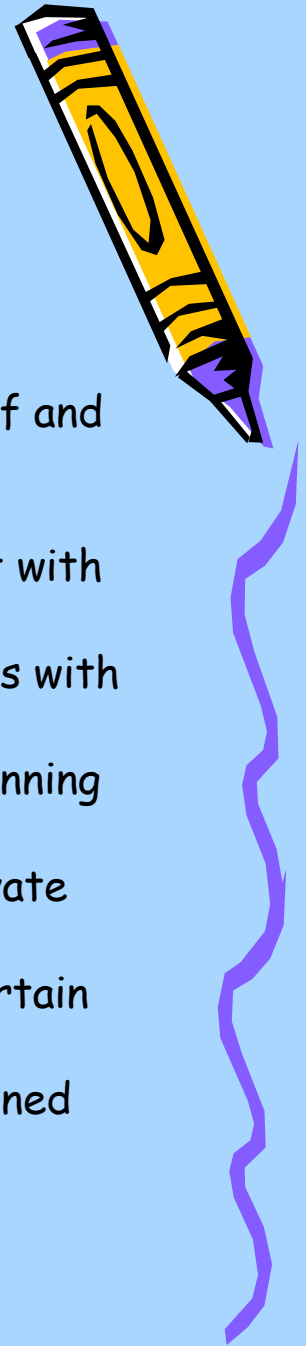
1. Support faculty, staff and parents in implementing all aspects of LTA program including two trainings per year.
2. Consider a school wide policy for avoiding LTA whenever possible, i.e. food-free celebrations, adopting a no sharing/trading food policy.
3. Limit the use of food for curriculum instruction. If food is used, notify parents as noted in the student's IHCP.
4. Establish a basic Medical Emergency Plan for the building.
5. Ensure an IHCP is developed and implemented on each student with LTA.
6. Prohibit food consumption on routine bus routes and field trips. School personnel may allow food on longer trips with appropriate supervision.
7. Provide and maintain allergy sensitive tables in the cafeteria, and designate who is responsible for cleaning these tables and when they should be cleaned.



School Administrator Responsibilities:

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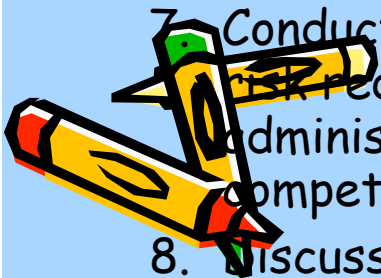
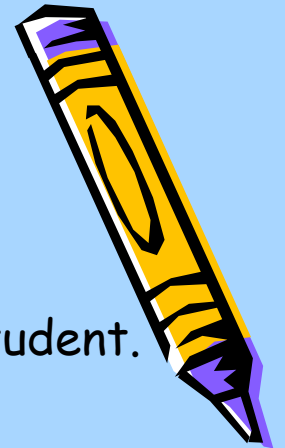
8. Ensure there is a contingency plan in place that is understood by staff and students, in the event the nurse is not in the building.
9. Provide emergency communication devices (2 way radio, intercom, cell phone, walkie talkie) for all school activities that involve a student with LTA.
10. Ensure that a full time nurse is available in every school with students with a LTA.
11. Develop a notification procedure with school nurse to utilize when planning field trips.
12. Establish an emergency plan for field trips that includes how to activate EMS and who carries and administers the EpiPen.
13. Sign the letter developed by the school nurse strongly requesting certain foods not be brought into the classroom.
14. Ensure the student is placed in a classroom where the teacher is trained and feels comfortable to administer an EpiPen if needed.



Responsibilities of the School

RN:

1. Obtain allergy information and medical history from family/student.
2. Obtain medical documentation re: LTA and EpiPen.
3. Obtain written permission from parent/guardian to administer medications, communicate with student's health care provider and share information with appropriate school personnel regarding the student's LTA.
4. Meet with parent, student and teacher(s). Develop a plan (IHCP) for student management in the classroom(s), lunchroom, playground, field trips and emergency situations.
5. Ensure that all staff members who have contact with students with LTA are familiar with the student's IHCP.
6. Provide a list of students with LTA, (if consent given by parents/guardian) to all staff on a need-to-know basis, including transportation staff.
7. Conduct in-service training and education for all staff regarding LTA, risk reduction procedures, emergency procedures and how to administer the EpiPen. Ensure each staff member completes an EpiPen competency sheet. Educate new personnel as needed.
8. Discuss with student action to follow in the event of an allergic



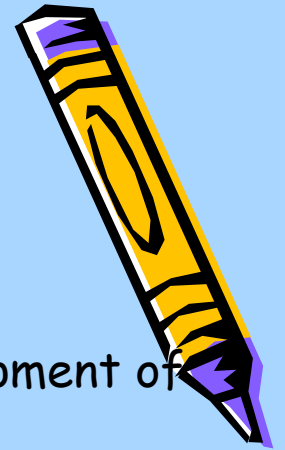
Responsibilities of the School RN:

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10. Meet with Director of Food Services and/or Food Service Personnel and review IHCP for each student.
11. Clearly post location of Epipens.
12. Maintain the expiration dates of the Epipen's and arrange for replacement Epipens from parents as needed.
13. Ensure there is a contingency plan in the case of a substitute nurse.
14. In the event of an Epipen administration, complete the MADPH Epipen administration form and fax to Nurse Leader @ 508-651-7167.
15. Compose letter to parents/guardian requesting they avoid bringing certain allergen containing foods to school, co-sign with principal and distribute to classes with students with LTA (PreK-4 or on individual case-case basis).
16. Place "Allergy Alert" sign outside classroom.
17. Post a list of students who require Epipens for LTA in the health office.
18. Encourage parent/guardian to maintain "safe snacks".
19. Encourage student/parent to obtain medical alert bracelet.



Responsibilities of Teachers:



1. Consult with school nurse, student and parent re: the development of the IHCP for the LTA student in the classroom.
2. Ensure the classroom has a functioning communication device for direct contact with school nurse or office.
3. Transport the EpiPen so that it is always with the student. (i.e. to specialists). (PreK thru 4)
4. Communicate/remind all parents with regards to LTA in the classroom.
5. Participate in education and training regarding LTA.
6. Keep all necessary documents re: LTA accessible.
7. Ensure that all student teachers, aides, specialists and substitute teachers are informed of the students with LTA and necessary safeguards.
8. Educate classmates to avoid endangering, isolating, stigmatizing or harassing students with LTA.
9. Respond immediately to every symptom or sign as a possible allergic reaction.
10. Avoid using food based projects/curriculum. If food will be used,

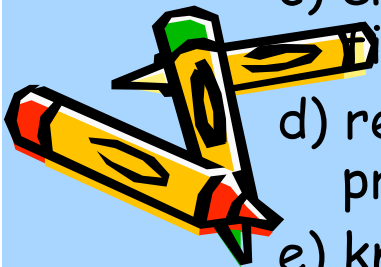


Responsibilities of Teachers:

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11. Prohibit students from sharing/trading snacks.
12. Encourage parents/guardians to send in box of "safe snacks" for their child.
13. Avoid cross-contamination of foods by wiping down eating surfaces with soap and water before and after eating. Reinforce hand washing before and after eating especially with the allergic child.
14. Field Trips:
 - a) ensure all life saving medications and instructions are taken on field trips.
 - b) students with LTA should be assigned to his/her parent/guardian if available, or the classroom teacher.
 - c) ensure a functioning communication device is taken on field trips
 - d) review field trip plans; avoid high risk places; plan for prevention and exposure to students with LTA
 - e) know where the closest medical facilities are located.

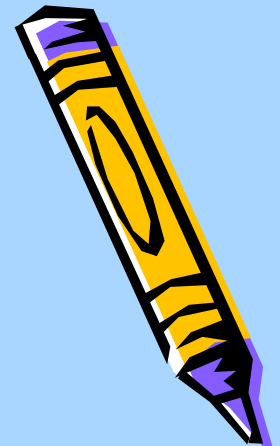


Responsibilities of Food Service Manager/Cafeteria Personnel:

1. Food Service workers will use only nonlatex gloves.
2. Arrange for training of all food service staff to read product food labels and recognize food/latex allergens.
3. If requested by parent(s)/guardian(s), attend meeting to discuss accommodations for the student with LTA.
4. If written consent is obtained from parent(s)/guardian(s), post student's allergy information for all cafeteria staff.

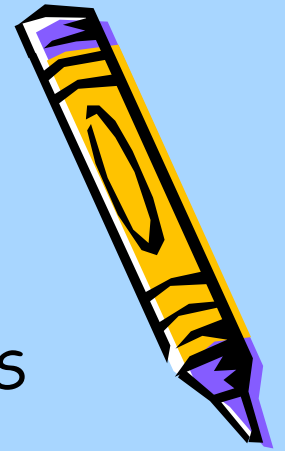
5. Setup policies for the cafeteria regarding allergic students.

6. Provide a food preparation environment that follows sound



Responsibilities of the BUS Driver/Transportation Staff:

1. Trainings and information will be coordinated by the NPS Transportation Coordinator.
2. Provide training for all school bus drivers on LTA, signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to administer an EpiPen.
3. Ensure that each bus is equipped with a functioning emergency communication device (walkie-talkie, cell phone, two-way radio)
4. Maintain a policy of no food eating allowed on the bus.
5. Be familiar with local Emergency Management Systems (911).



Responsibilities of the Athletic Director/Coaches:

1. Ensure that an emergency communication device (walkie talkie, cell phone, two way radio) is always present.
1. Ensure that the coach(es) is educated about the student's LTA, signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to administer the EpiPen.
2. Identify who will carry the student's EpiPen and where it will be located.



Epi Pens

2008-2009 148 students with Epi Pens

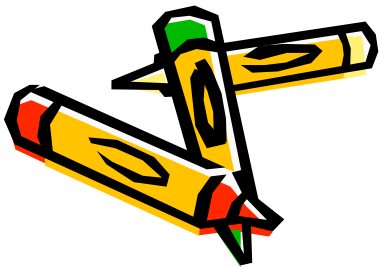
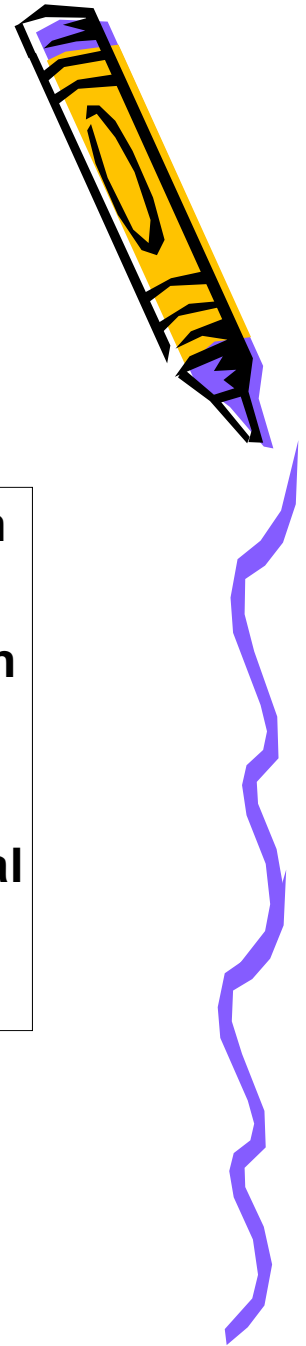
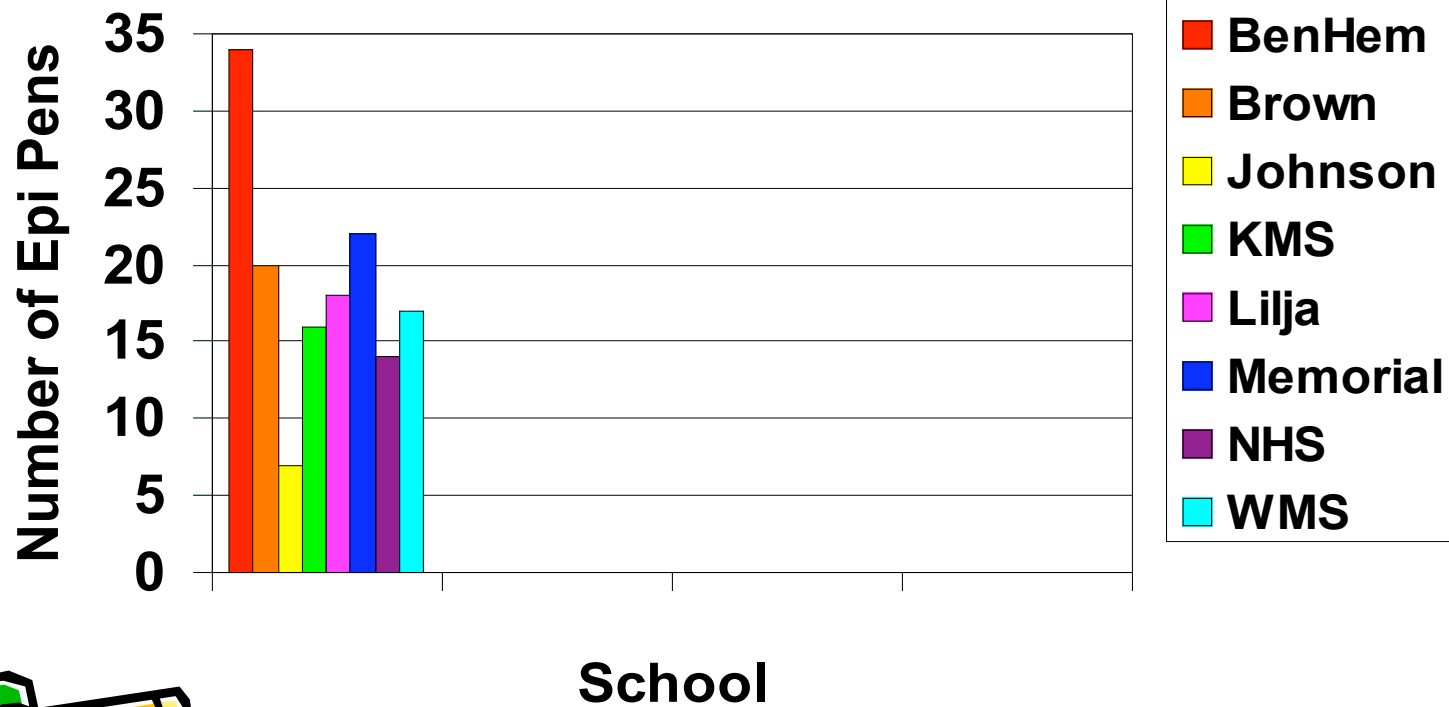
2007-2008 134 students with Epi Pens



EPI PENS 2008-2009

Epi Pens

148 total

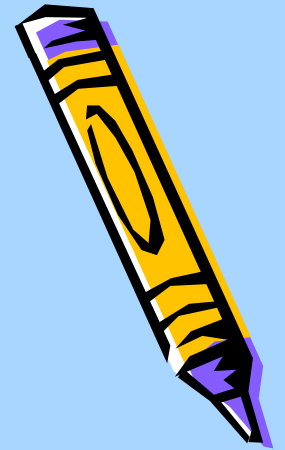


Special Conditions of Students in NPS District Wide Data 2008-2009

- 13.43 % of students have documented special health considerations
- Asthma-530 students
- LTFA-148 students with EpiPens
- Seizures-31 students
- Diabetics-11 students
- Cancer- 6 students



Life Threatening Food Allergies



- Always individualized as per each child's Individualized Health Care Plan/504 Plan.
- School safety measures are tailored to the developmental level of the student(s).
- All staff are trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and how to administer an Epi-Pen.
- Staff are required to fill out Epi-Pen competency sheets.
- Letters are sent home to classrooms that have students who have life threatening food allergies in grades PK-4.
- Allergy sensitive tables are present in the cafeterias in grades PK-8.
- Stock Epi-Pens are held in each clinic as 25% of administered Epi-Pens in 2006-2007 were given to students who had no history of life-threatening food allergies.
- Dr. Michael Young from CHMC has visited Natick for parent presentations on life threatening food allergies.

