

POLICY

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Related Entries: JPD-RB
Responsible Office: Special Education and Student Services
Related Sources: *Annotated Code of Maryland*, Education Article, §7-426.2

Emergency Care for Students Experiencing Anaphylaxis

A. PURPOSE

The Board of Education (Board) is committed to a school environment that promotes and protects children's health, well-being, and ability to learn. Preparation for medical emergencies that children may encounter during the school day is an important part of that environment.

B. ISSUE

Some students have severe, life-threatening reactions to nuts or other foods, insect venom, and or other substances in the environment and rapidly develop a condition called anaphylaxis. These students may need an immediate injection of epinephrine while awaiting transport to the hospital.

C. POSITION

Schools shall establish procedures to provide emergency medical care to any student who is determined or perceived to be in anaphylaxis.

1. The school nurse, and other school personnel identified by the superintendent of schools or designee, are authorized to administer auto-injectable epinephrine, if available, to a student who is determined to be or perceived to be in anaphylaxis, regardless of whether the student—
 - (a) has been identified as having an anaphylactic allergy; or,
 - (b) has a prescription for epinephrine as prescribed by an authorized licensed health care practitioner.

2. School personnel shall be trained on–
 - (a) how to recognize the symptoms of anaphylaxis;
 - (b) procedures for the emergency administration of auto-injectable epinephrine; and,
 - (c) the proper follow-up emergency procedures.
3. A school nurse may obtain and store auto-injectable epinephrine to be used in an emergency situation.

D. DESIRED OUTCOMES

An educational environment that promotes and protects children’s health, well-being, and ability to learn by preparing for medical emergencies that children may encounter during the school day.

E. IMPLEMENTATION

The superintendent of schools or designee will develop procedures for obtaining and storing auto-injectable epinephrine to be used in an emergency situation, recognizing symptoms of anaphylaxis, providing training identified in this policy for school personnel, administering auto-injectable epinephrine, and completing proper follow-up emergency procedures.

F. REVIEW AND REPORTING

This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the Board policy review process.

Policy History: New policy, adopted by Resolution No. 456-12, October 22, 2012.