

Huron Playschool Co-operative Inc.

Anaphylactic Policy

Definition of Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that can be fatal, resulting in circulatory collapse or shock. The allergy may be related to food, insect stings, medicine, latex, etc.

Purpose of the Policy and Procedures

Huron Playschool Co-operative is committed to taking a pro-active position regarding the prevention of anaphylaxis. The purpose of the policy is to provide a process for dealing with anaphylaxis in the Playschool.

Huron Playschool may administer the Epi-Pen as prescribed by a physician in cases of emergencies **only**. The Epi-Pen is a disposable, prefilled automatic injection devices designed to deliver a single (or double) dose of epinephrine for allergic emergencies. They should only be used by, and/or administered to, a hypersensitive (allergic) child in the event of an allergic emergency as prescribed by a physician. **Such emergencies may occur from insect stings or bites, foods, drugs or other allergens, as well as from idiopathic or exercise-induced anaphylaxis.**

The use of both the Epi-Pen Jr. and the Epi-Pen is being permitted because of its demonstrated potential to save lives when there may be only minutes to spare; and because it is premeasured and contained in an automatic injection device. However, even if the Epi-Pen Jr. or the Epi-Pen is used, Huron Playschool must still obtain emergency medical care. **The use of the Epi-Pen Jr. or the Epi-Pen is emergency supportive therapy only and is not a replacement or substitute for immediate medical or hospital care.**

Strategy to Reduce Risk of Exposure

- Children with extreme allergies that the Playschool cannot accommodate will be asked to bring their own food from home.
- Foods with “May Contain” nut warnings will not be served.
- All labels will be read by a staff member before serving.
- Staff purchasing foods on behalf of the centre must read food ingredient labels every time they purchase a product.

- Any persons supplying food to the Playschool will be notified of all life threatening allergies in the Playschool. The list of allergies will be revised as necessary.
- All children and adults will wash hands before and after handling food.
- Children/staff/volunteers will be instructed not to share food.
- All surfaces will be cleaned with a cleaning solution (water and germ destroyer approved by Public Health) prior to and after preparing and serving food.
- All cleaning supplies, medicines and other products that may be of danger and/or commonly produce allergic reactions will be stored away.
- Extra supervision of anaphylactic children during eating (e.g. sitting next to or opposite staff).
- On the bus during field trips, children with anaphylaxis will sit within view of staff.
- Playground areas will be checked and monitored for insects such as wasps.
- Staff will take cell phone on all excursions.

Communication Plan for the Dissemination of Information

1. Parents will be informed of all allergies in the centre.
2. A list of allergies will be posted in each room.
3. Parents with children with anaphylaxis will provide an individual plan for their child prior to enrolment.

Individual Plan and Emergency Procedures

Prior to enrolment, the parent/guardian(s) will meet with the Teacher/Director to provide input for the child's individual plan and emergency procedures. This plan will include but is not limited to:

1. Description of the child's allergy
2. Monitoring and avoidance strategies
3. Signs and symptoms of an anaphylactic reaction
4. Child care staff roles and responsibilities

5. Parent/guardian(s) consent for administering allergy medication, sharing information and posting Emergency Plan
6. Emergency contact information
7. Parent and physician signature

Epi-pens should always be stored in front pouch of the emergency backpack which is always with the group.

Parents are requested to advise the Teacher/Director if their child develops an allergy, requires medication and/or any change to the child's plan. Individual plans will be revised yearly and as directed by the child's physician.

Copies of individual plans are in each child's file, emergency bags and are posted in every room at the Playschool.

Training

Prior to enrolment and each September (or when a child with anaphylaxis joins the Playschool) all staff will be trained by the parent/guardian(s) or physician of each child with anaphylaxis enrolled in the Playschool.

Volunteers, parents and student teachers will be given information and training by the parent of the child with anaphylaxis or the Teacher/Director. Training will include procedures to be followed in the event of a child having an anaphylactic reaction, recognizing signs and symptoms and administering medication.

Volunteers, parents and student teachers are not permitted to administer medication unless under extreme circumstances (i.e. staff member is unconscious).

Staff, volunteers, parents and student teachers will be required to sign and date that they have received training. The Playschool will keep a log on file of all training dates, trainers and staff signatures.

Emergency Protocol

1. One person stays with the child at all times.
2. One person calls for help or goes for help.
3. Follow emergency procedures as outlined in the child's individual plan (i.e. administer Epi-Pen at the first sign of reaction).
4. Call 911. Have the child transported to hospital even if symptoms have subsided. Symptoms may occur hours after exposure to allergen.

5. Administered Epi-pen is to accompany child to hospital, and given to child's parent or hospital staff for disposal.
6. One person must stay with the child until the parent or guardian arrives.

Revised: May 2010

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Anaphylactic Training Record

Child's Name: _____

Trainer's Name: _____ Parent / Physician / Staff

Trainer's Signature: _____

Date: _____

This signifies that you have been trained, read and will adhere to Huron Playschool Co-operative's Anaphylactic Policy and the above-named child's Individual Plan.

Name	Date	Signature	Witness	

