



ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions 2023 - What's New?

ASCIA has developed a new 2023 version of the green **ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions**, which is available from June 2023 onwards. The changes have been made to improve ease of use and are consistent with the changes made to the red ASCIA Action Plans for Anaphylaxis. This is the first major formatting change in 20 years, since ASCIA Action Plans for Anaphylaxis were first introduced in 2003.



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australian society of clinical immunology and allergy
www.allergy.org.au

ACTION PLAN FOR Allergic Reactions



Photo

Name: _____ Date of birth: DD / MM / YYYY

Confirmed allergen(s): _____

Family/emergency contact(s):

1. _____ Mobile: _____

2. _____ Mobile: _____

Plan prepared by: _____ (doctor or nurse practitioner)
who authorises medications to be given, as consented by the patient or parent/guardian,
according to this plan.

Signed: _____ Date: DD / MM / YYYY

Antihistamine: _____ Dose: _____

This plan does not expire but review is recommended by: DD / MM / YYYY

This ASCIA Action Plan for Allergic Reactions is for people who have allergies but do not have a prescribed adrenaline (epinephrine) injector.

Patient specific details are all completed in this top section

MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTIONS

SIGNS:

- Swelling of lips, face, eyes
- Hives or welts
- Tingling mouth
- Abdominal pain, vomiting - **these are signs of anaphylaxis for insect allergy**

Mild to moderate allergic reactions may not always occur before anaphylaxis

ACTIONS:

- Stay with person, call for help
- Give antihistamine - see above**
- Phone family/emergency contact
- Insect allergy - flick out sting if visible
- Tick allergy - seek medical help or freeze tick and let it drop off

Signs and actions for mild to moderate allergic reactions are in two easy to follow lists

SIGNS OF ANAPHYLAXIS (SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS)

Watch for **ANY ONE** of the following signs:






- Difficult or noisy breathing
- Swelling of tongue
- Swelling or tightness in throat
- Wheeze or persistent cough
- Difficulty talking or hoarse voice
- Persistent dizziness or collapse
- Pale and floppy (young children)

Signs and actions for anaphylaxis are unchanged

ACTIONS FOR ANAPHYLAXIS

1 LAY PERSON FLAT - do NOT allow them to stand or walk

- If unconscious or pregnant, place in recovery position - on left side if pregnant
- If breathing is difficult allow them to sit with legs outstretched
- Hold young children flat, not upright

2 GIVE ADRENALINE INJECTOR IF AVAILABLE

3 Phone ambulance - 000 (AU) or 111 (NZ)

4 Phone family/emergency contact

5 Transfer person to hospital for at least 4 hours of observation

IF IN DOUBT GIVE ADRENALINE INJECTOR

Commence CPR at any time if person is unresponsive and not breathing normally

Adrenaline injector doses are:

- 150 mcg for children 7.5-20kg
- 300 mcg for children over 20kg and adults
- 300 mcg or 500 mcg for children and adults over 50kg

Instructions are on device labels.

Adrenaline injector doses are in this section

ALWAYS GIVE ADRENALINE INJECTOR FIRST and then asthma reliever puffer if someone with known asthma and allergy to food, insects or medication (who may have been exposed to the allergen) has **SUDDEN BREATHING DIFFICULTY** (including wheeze, persistent cough or hoarse voice) even if there are no skin symptoms.

If adrenaline is accidentally injected, phone your local poisons information centre. Continue to follow this action plan for the person with the allergic reaction.

Wording about allergen exposure is included in the asthma section

© ASCIA 2023 This plan is a medical document that can only be completed and signed by the patient's doctor or nurse practitioner and cannot be altered without their permission.