

Anaphylaxis



Anaphylaxis is the most severe type of allergic reaction and should always be treated as a medical emergency. Anaphylaxis requires immediate treatment with adrenaline (epinephrine), which is injected into the outer mid-thigh muscle. If treatment with adrenaline is delayed, this can result in fatal anaphylaxis.

How to give adrenaline (epinephrine) injectors

EpiPen®



Form fist around EpiPen® and PULL OFF **BLUE** SAFETY RELEASE



Hold leg still and PLACE ORANGE END against outer mid-thigh (with or without clothing)



PUSH DOWN HARD until a click is heard or felt and hold in place for 3 seconds REMOVE EpiPen®

EpiPen® doses are:

EpiPen® Jr (150 mcg) for children 7.5-20kg EpiPen® (300 mcg) for children over 20kg and adults

Anapen®



PULL OFF **BLACK**NEEDLE SHIELD



PULL OFF **GREY** SAFETY CAP from red button



PLACE NEEDLE END FIRMLY against outer mid-thigh at 90°angle (with or without clothing)



PRESS **RED** BUTTON so it clicks and hold for 3 seconds.
REMOVE Anapen®

Anapen® doses are:

Anapen® 150 Junior for children 7.5-20kg Anapen® 300 for children over 20kg and adults Anapen® 500 for children and adults over 50kg

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
- Locate adrenaline injector
- 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 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)

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

- 3 Phone ambulance 000 (AU) or 111 (NZ)
- 4 Phone family/emergency contact
- 5 Further adrenaline may be given if no response after 5 minutes
- 6 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

ALWAYS give adrenaline injector FIRST if someone has SEVERE AND SUDDEN BREATHING DIFFICULTY (including wheeze, persistent cough or hoarse voice), even if there are no skin symptoms. THEN SEEK MEDICAL HELP.

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