Epinephrine Resource School Nurse
Saving Lives at School:
School Nurses Train Staff to Respond to Anaphylactic Emergencies

Presentation Scenarios

Scenario 1

Your first grade student was blowing up balloons in class for a party. He was also eating some chocolate chip cookies that he had eaten before. He suddenly starts to vomit, his lips become swollen and he states that his tongue feels fat. What do you think might be happening and what should you do?

Scenario 2

David is a sophomore in HS and is participating in physical education on the field behind the school and is suddenly stung by a couple of wasps. Initially he feels fine but is upset that he has been stung. Approximately 15 minutes after being stung he complains of itching over his entire body and feels like he cannot catch his breath. Discuss the role of the PE teacher and school team (including administration) in responding to this emergency.

Scenario 3

State laws and regulations allow school nurses to train unlicensed (non-nursing) school staff to administer epinephrine by auto-injector in the event that a student has an anaphylactic episode and the school nurse is not available. The principal says, “We have a school nurse. We don’t need to have anyone else trained.” How would you make your case that school staff should be trained?

Scenario 4

A middle school student, Malika, comes to you and reports that she is feeling itchy, she is wheezing and she feels that her throat is about to close. She is extremely upset and fearful and states, this has never happened to me before. How would you, the school staff, respond?

Scenario 5

A fellow staff person is struggling with a fourth grader attempting to give him epinephrine. She reported that she thinks he is experiencing symptoms of anaphylaxis. She decides not to give him the injection and instructs you to call his mother to decide what to do. What should you do?

Scenario 6

Your senior HS student has a known peanut allergy. She comes to you and states that he thinks he is having a reaction to the granola bar she just ate. You ask her if she has her epinephrine with her and she says no, I never carry that with me because I have never had to use one. I’m not even really sure I have a peanut allergy. What should you do?

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