

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGY TREATMENT

In order to minimize the incidence of life-threatening allergic reactions, the Wareham Public Schools (WPS) will maintain a system-wide response plan to address life-threatening reactions.

The Wareham Public Schools (WPS) will:

- A. Provide life-threatening allergy awareness education and Epi-Pen training for all WPS employees based on the Department of Public Health (DPH) and Department of Education (DOE) recommendations, including but not limited to:
 - 1. the significance of Life-Threatening Allergies (LTAs) and a discussion of the most common food, stinging insect, latex, and medication allergies,
 - 2. how to create a safe environment for all students with LTAs,
 - 3. the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis,
 - 4. what an Epi-Pen is and how to use it, and
 - 5. how to activate the Emergency Response System (ERS), i.e., nurse and 911 Emergency Medical Services (EMS), to deal with an actual, suspected, or potential anaphylactic reaction.
- B. The principal or designee in each school will implement a “No Food or Utensil Sharing” practice with particular focus at the elementary school level.
- C. Each elementary school, as reasonably appropriate, will provide a peanut free/tree-nut free table in the cafeteria. Reasonable efforts will be made for such table to become “free” of other allergens as deemed needed for an individual student through documentation from the student’s primary care physician or board certified allergist. At the middle and high schools appropriate accommodations will be made as needed.
- D. At the elementary school level, when a student’s medical need to be in an LTA-free environment is clearly documented by a board certified allergist, and clear directions from the allergist are provided, WPS will make reasonable efforts to create LTA-free classrooms for the student. WPS

reserves the right to consult with a board certified allergist of its choice to review the recommendation to determine if it will authorize its implementation.

- E. Each school's Crisis Management Plan will include how to respond to an anaphylactic reaction (life-threatening allergic reaction). This plan will be reviewed annually by each building principal and will be part of all LTA-awareness training.
- F. The WPS will maintain records of any life-threatening allergic reaction, the use of an Epi-Pen, and the call for medical assistance by calling 911. WPS will report all such LTA reactions to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), according to department regulations and protocol.
- G. Because of the confidentiality of medical records, a student's parent/guardian has the responsibility for notifying school bus drivers directly of any life threatening allergies of which the bus driver should be aware of.
- H. For any event outside of the regular school day which is neither sponsored by WPS nor part of the WPS curriculum, the sponsor of such event is responsible for assuring that appropriate provisions concerning LTA's of participants are in place.

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