



# Hancock Public Schools

Independent School District No. 768

## Hancock Public Schools Stock EpiPen Protocol:

### Background:

Anaphylaxis is a life-threatening allergic reaction. In treating anaphylaxis, epinephrine is a first line of treatment and needs to be given immediately to be most effective. Some students and adults have prescribed epinephrine auto-injectors to treat their severe allergy. Students with known severe allergies should have a health plan with the school health office; that plan should be followed.

There may be a time when an individual has a severe allergic reaction that has not been identified before. In these cases, the new state law, MN Statutes 121A.2207, allows trained school staff members to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a student or other individual believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction, regardless of whether the student or other individual has a prescription for an epinephrine auto-injector.

Epinephrine auto-injectors have been available in schools for students with identified severe allergies who have a health plan in place; many staff members have been trained for administration of this auto-injectable epinephrine for these students. With the new law, the administration of the epinephrine is the same but the new piece is identifying anaphylaxis in someone who has not previously experienced it. According to the law, any school staff member may be trained to identify anaphylaxis and administer an epinephrine auto-injector.

### Procedures:

Stock epinephrine auto-injectors will be available during the school day during the teacher contracted hours. Hancock Public School will be stocked with 1 EpiPen Auto-Injector pack and 1 EpiPen Jr Auto-Injector pack (each pack contains 2 pens). EpiPens come in a regular dose for those over 66 pounds and a junior dose for those between 33 and 66 pounds.

The EpiPens will be available for individuals with unidentified allergies and experience an unexpected anaphylactic reaction during the school day. These are not intended for students who have identified severe allergies and a health plan requiring them to have an EpiPen available at all times.

The EpiPens will be kept in a bright yellow EpiLocker located inside the front office in the school vault. The school administration staff will know where they are located. The EpiPens will remain at school and will not be taken on field trips.

*Note: Black Sharpie Markers should stay with the pens in order to write time of administration directly on the pen.*

### Training:

Office personnel and building administrators who are consistently in the office during teacher contract hours and other staff designated by the school nurse will be trained on EpiPen administration. Training includes what signs or symptoms to look for that indicate Anaphylaxis and how to administer the EpiPen. Calling 911 and documentation according to District Policy will be standard protocol when an EpiPen is used (see quick reference guide below). The school nurse will be responsible for the training of personnel.

**Maintenance:**

EpiPen Auto-Injectors have a life of approximately 18 months. The school nurse will be responsible for monitoring the expiration dates on the pens and requesting replacement pens. Pens should be examined quarterly. Replacement pens will also be requested in the event that the pens are used to treat Anaphylaxis.



# Hancock Public Schools

Independent School District No. 768

## Quick Reference Guide for Anaphylaxis (Severe Allergic Reaction)

Note: only trained staff members may administer epinephrine.

### 1. Recognize Symptoms of Anaphylaxis:

<b>Mouth</b>	Itching, tingling, or swelling of lips, tongue, mouth
<b>Skin (80-90%)</b>	Hives/rash, reddened/flushed skin, itching, swelling of the face or extremities
<b>Gut (30-45%)</b>	Nausea, vomiting, abdominal cramps, diarrhea
<b>Throat</b>	Itching, tightness/swelling of throat, difficulty swallowing, hoarseness, frequent clearing of the throat
<b>Lung (70%)</b>	Shortness of breath, trouble breathing, tight chest, difficulty talking, repetitive coughing, wheezing
<b>Heart (10-45%)</b>	Pale, blue or gray color skin or nails; sweaty or clammy skin. Feeling faint or dizzy, loss of consciousness. Weak or thready pulse.
<b>Other 10-15%</b>	Feeling anxious or like something bad is happening. Confusion.

Look for **two system involvement**. Ask about symptoms they may be experiencing.

Do they have a known allergy? Do they have their own epinephrine – if so, use it if needed.

Do they have a heart condition? If so, call and consult 911.

### 2. For two system involvement or difficulty breathing, give epinephrine quickly.



#### A. Determine proper dose of epinephrine auto-injector (EpiPen).

Adult dose for greater than 66 pounds: EpiPen with **yellow** label.

Child dose for 33 - 66 pounds: EpiPen Junior with **green** label.

Children under 66 pounds are generally under age 8 (2nd - 3rd grade).

#### B. Administer EpiPen.

 <p>1 Form FIST around EpiPen® and PULL OFF BLUE SAFETY RELEASE</p>	<p>Form fist around EpiPen</p> <p>Pull off blue safety cap</p>	 <p>2 Place orange end HARD into outer thigh so it 'CLICKS' and HOLD for 10 seconds.</p>	<p>Push orange end hard into outer thigh so it clicks</p> <p>Hold for 3 seconds</p>
--	--	---	---

#### C. Write time of injection on EpiPen.

3. Call 911 – advise that anaphylaxis is suspected and that epinephrine has been given.
4. Have the individual lie down, or at least sit down on the floor.
5. Call parent/guardian/emergency contact. Make a note of this information for follow-up needs.
6. Stay with the individual until Emergency Medical Services (EMS) arrives. Reassure as needed. Monitor their airway and breathing. Administer CPR if needed.
7. If symptoms do not improve or symptoms worsen and EMS has not arrived, administer a second EpiPen 5 to 15 minutes after the initial injection. Write the time on the EpiPen.
8. When EMS arrives, give them the used EpiPen(s). EMS to manage transport to the emergency room.
9. Complete incident report. Inform main office and school nurse.

***Note: Main office and School Nurse should be notified immediately of the incident and informed that 911 has been called.***