



APPLEGROVE COMMUNITY COMPLEX

60 Woodfield Road, Toronto, Ontario M4L 2W6

Tel: 416-461-8143 Fax: 416-461-5513

www.ApplegroveCC.ca

“TOGETHER, BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY”



Anaphylaxis Policy Reviewed by the Board June 18, 2012

1. Policy Statement

Applegrove Community Complex recognizes the potentially serious consequences of children with allergies. These allergies may include a condition known as anaphylaxis. Applegrove does not purport to be, nor can it be deemed to be free of food items that may lead to a severe allergic or anaphylactic reaction. Applegrove will make every reasonable effort to reduce the risk to children with severe allergies or anaphylaxis in accordance to this policy.

2. What is Anaphylaxis

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction that occurs when the body's immune system overreacts in response to the presence of a particular allergen which is perceived as a threat. The whole body is affected, often within minutes of exposure to the allergen. The result of exposure can be fatal.

Common allergens/substances that can cause an anaphylactic reaction:

- Peanuts and peanut products
- Tree nuts: walnuts, hazel nuts, pecans, almonds, cashews
- Sesame seeds and sesame seed oil
- Cow's milk
- Eggs
- Fish, shellfish
- Bananas, kiwis, avocados and chestnuts for children with latex allergies
- Wheat
- Soy
- Legumes (any seed pod, or other edible part of a leguminous plant used as food including peas and beans)

Note: Any food could trigger an anaphylactic reaction.

Non-Food Sources

- Playdough (may contain peanut butter)
- Scented crayons and cosmetics
- Peanut-shell stuffing in “bean bags” and stuffed toys
- Wild bird seed
- Insect stings or bites
- Rubber latex (i.e., in gloves, balloons, erasers, rubber spatulas, craft supplies, koosh balls)
- Vigorous exercise
- Plants such as poinsettias, for children with latex allergies

Applegrove will attempt to reduce the risk of exposure by ensuring that the allergens are eliminated, if possible. This will be achieved by posting a sign at the entrance so clients and visitors are aware they are not to bring items with these allergens into the centre. Where there is a food label it will be reviewed by staff prior to serving the children. Any labels indicating they may have trace amounts of an allergen will not be served.

We live in a world that is contaminated with potential allergens and anaphylactic children must learn to avoid specific triggers. While the key responsibility lies with the anaphylactic individual and his/her family, in the case of a young child, the childcare community must also be aware. Creating an environment that reduces the risk to severely allergic or anaphylactic children requires the cooperation and understanding of all members of Applegrove registered childrens programs, including staff, children, parents, and caregivers. Effective July 2012, we request that NO peanut or tree nut products are allowed at Applegrove registered children's programs.

Identification of Children at Risk

It is the responsibility of the parent or caregiver to inform Applegrove that his or her child has allergies or is anaphylactic or potentially anaphylactic. This must be listed on the registration form and they must verbally notify staff.

All staff shall be aware of these children with allergies posted in the kitchen and Applegrove office, with their picture indicating their allergy. Parents/caregivers must provide two (2) recent photos.

Availability and Location of Epipens

- The epipen is an auto-injector containing epinephrine (adrenaline). This medicine is an alpha-and beta-receptor stimulant used to treat severe allergic reactions. It may also be used to treat severe allergic reactions that affect breathing.
- Parents of an anaphylactic child must provide a minimum of two (2) EpiPens to be left at summer camp. The parent must promptly replace the EpiPens when the expiry date is reached.
- Posters describing the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and the use of the EpiPen are posted in the kitchen.
- The Parent must sign a Medication Administration Record Form for the administration of the EpiPen. The staff will receive a demonstration of EpiPen administration by the Parent.

Symptoms of an allergic reaction:

- Trouble breathing, speaking or swallowing
- A drop in blood pressure, rapid heartbeat, loss of consciousness
- Flushed face, hives or a rash, red and itchy skin
- Swelling of the eyes, face, lips, throat and tongue
- Anxiousness, distress, faintness, paleness, sense of doom, weakness
- Cramps, diarrhea, vomiting

Treatment Protocol

- Assist child with retrieving and administration of epipen as needed or retrieve second epipen in the designated storage spot.
- There are no contraindications or hesitation to using an EpiPen for a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. As soon as you observe any symptoms, administer the epipen. Time of administration is noted.
- Delegate a responsible person to call 9-1-1. Once 9-1-1 has been contacted, ask same person to call the office for additional staff support and notification of medical emergency.
- Delegate a responsible person to wait by the appropriate entrance to guide EMS to the program room.
- The staff should stay with the affected child.
- Ensure the EpiPen(s) used is taken with the child to the hospital
- Contact the child's parent.
- A second EpiPen may need to be administered if there is no improvement in the child's symptoms and Emergency personnel has not arrived.
- Regardless of the degree or response to epinephrine, the child is taken to an Emergency room by Emergency personnel. A staff may need to accompany child to the hospital if parent has not arrived. The staff will stay with the child until a parent arrives.

Training and Parent Notification

- The policy will be reviewed annually by staff in June. Staff are required to maintain Emergency First Aid Certification. This must include training and review of anaphylactic reactions and EpiPen administration.
- This policy will be distributed to ALL parents with children who enrol in the summer camp.

Procedures for Reporting a Serious Occurrence

- All incidents involving an anaphylaxis emergency need to be reported as a serious occurrence.
- All serious occurrences, as defined by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, must be reported immediately to the Executive Director, Susan Fletcher or the designated alternative, May Seto. If they are not available, please notify Louise Maynard.
- The Executive Director or designates will call the City of Toronto Serious Occurrence line at 416-397-7359. If it is after business hours, call 416-397-9200. After you have made the call, please follow up with Toronto Children's Services Consultant, Karen Guthrie at 416-397-1449.
- Get immediate medical attention when warranted and ensure safety of all participants.