

Anaphylaxis Policy and Procedure

Policy:

It is the policy of this center to provide basic supportive care in the event of anaphylactic reaction related to vaccinations, medications or other environmental causes.

Purpose:

To protect vital body functions and relieve symptoms such as itching, swelling, and redness of the skin or mucous membranes. This procedure must be performed by a licensed nurse.

Procedure:

1. Prior to administering vaccines and/or newly ordered medications, check the resident's medical record for any indications of allergies.
2. Post-vaccination administration, monitor resident for adverse reactions including but not limited to:
 - Watery eyes and/or runny nose;
 - Shortness of breath or wheezing;
 - Itching, swelling, and redness of the skin, eyes, or mucous membranes;
 - Headache, dizziness, or seizures;
 - Pain at injection site;
3. If symptoms of an adverse reaction are observed, position the resident with head slightly elevated and immediately contact the attending physician.
 - Provide the physician with vital signs, name and dose of medication administered if applicable, and current symptoms.
 - Implement any/all physician orders.
 - Keep the resident at rest with the head slightly elevated.
 - Check vital signs every 15 minutes for one hour, then every 30 minutes until symptoms are resolved or the resident is transferred to an acute care center.
 - Follow facility policy for communicating further changes in condition to the physician and family.
4. Oxygen Administration
 - If breathing difficulties and/or wheezing are observed, contact the attending physician and obtain orders for oxygen administration.
5. Stay with the Resident
 - Remain with the resident until the resident is stable or they are transferred to an acute care center.
6. Emergency Supplies
 - Ensure that the emergency drug box is readily available and is appropriately stocked.

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This policy and procedure is not intended to replace the informed judgment of individual physicians, nurses or other clinicians nor is it intended as a statement of prevailing community standards or minimum standards of practice. It is a suggested method and technique for achieving optimal health care, not a minimum standard below which residents necessarily would be placed at risk.

7. Administer Emergency Medication if Ordered
 - If the physician orders emergency medication, administer it promptly.
8. Follow Physician's Orders and Continue Monitoring
 - Continue to follow the physician's instructions and monitor the residents' vital signs per policy.
9. Transfer to Acute Care Center if Indicated
 - If the physician advises or the resident's condition warrants, arrange for a transfer to an acute care center.
10. Notify Family or Responsible Party
 - Inform the resident's family or responsible party of the change in status and plan of care.
 - If the resident is being transported, provide information to the family/responsible party as to name and location of receiving facility along with an estimated time of arrival.

Administrator Signature: Date: _____

Medical Director Signature: Date: _____

Date of Review and/or Revision: _____