

ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

Review date: 16th February 2010



1. Background

The most common causes of an anaphylactic reaction are eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, cow milk, bee or other insect stings, and some medications.

Young students may not be able to express the symptoms of anaphylaxis.

A reaction can develop within minutes of exposure to the allergen, but with planning and training, a reaction can be treated effectively by using an adrenaline auto-injector called an EpiPen®.

2. Purpose

The aim of this policy is to:

- minimise the risk of an anaphylactic reaction occurring while the student is in the care Christian College
- ensure that staff members respond appropriately to an anaphylactic reaction by initiating appropriate treatment, including competently administering an EpiPen®
- raise the College community's awareness of anaphylaxis and its management through education and policy implementation

3. Procedures

Christian College recognises the importance of all staff responsible for the student/s at risk of anaphylaxis to undertake training that includes:

- preventative measures to minimise the risk of an anaphylactic reaction
- recognition of the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis and
- be able to emergency treatment, including administration of an EpiPen®

Staff and parents/guardians need to be made aware that it is not possible to achieve a completely allergen-free environment that is open to the general community. Staff should not have a false sense of security that an allergen has been eliminated from the environment.

Christian College has adopted a range of procedures and risk minimisation strategies to reduce the risk of a student having an anaphylactic reaction. These include:

- staff knowing which students in their class/es have anaphylaxis

- when dealing with food, endeavour to ensure that students, particularly younger students avoid contact with nut products. Communication with parents informing them that some students have anaphylaxis problems and request that nut products be avoided in school lunches. College Canteens do not stock nut products
- ensure that students with anaphylaxis store their EpiPen in a safe location whilst at school and take their EpiPen whenever they leave the Campus