



City of Burnaby Parks & Recreation Department

Allergy Medication Policies

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
4946 Canada Way, Suite 101
Burnaby, B.C.
V5G 4H7

Telephone: (604) 294-7450
Fax: (604) 294-7201

Individuals with Life Threatening Allergies

NOTE: The City of Burnaby can never ensure an allergen-free environment in any service or facility.

To participate in arts and recreation programs and services, the following support alternatives are available to individuals with life-threatening conditions such as severe allergies with anaphylaxis. Staff can assist in selecting the most appropriate options through the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services department's client referral process (please see the Focus on Accessibility manual).

1. SUPPORT OPTIONS - Arts and Recreation Programs and Services

a) Preventative Strategies: Staff will assist with appropriate service-specific preventative strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to allergens. These strategies can include modifying the supplies used, modifying an activity, and notifying other participants to request their cooperation in restricting allergens within a program or service.

b) Special Medical Support: If support other than standard 9-1-1 emergency service is required, a parent, guardian or appointed caregiver must remain on site in order to provide emergency medical assistance such as the administration of medication. Please note that program supervisors can assist individuals in successfully coordinating their support arrangements.

Document Required for a) and b)

1. Customer Request for Service

Document Source

Focus on Accessibility manual

2. PARTICIPATION WITHOUT MEDICAL SUPPORT

A process is in place which allows individuals to participate without special medical support in appropriate services where the critical elements of risk to the participant is not seen to be part of the program, and where the individual (or parent/guardian) is prepared to accept the risks inherent in participating without this support.

Documents Required

1. Customer Request for Service
2. Acknowledgment of Risk/Release

Document Source

- Focus on Accessibility manual
Contact Allergy/Access Staff

3. EMERGENCY MEDICATION SUPPORT - Summer Day Camp Services

Within identified summer day camp services, staff may be able to assist with the administration of medication. Day camps run all day/all week, often for multiple weeks. Advance assessment, instruction, approval and documentation must be completed through the registration and client referral process.

Documents Required

1. Participant Profile
2. Emergency Medication Support Package

Document Source

- Camp Registration Package or FOA. manual
Contact Allergy/Access Staff

RATIONALE AND PRINCIPLES OF STAFF ASSISTANCE WITH EMERGENCY MEDICATION FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH LIFE-THREATENING ALLERGIES - (ANAPHYLAXIS)

SERVICE

- Emergency Medication assistance is necessary for individuals with life-threatening allergies, because 9-1-1 response may not be sufficient
- Staff assistance with emergency medication is only to apply to pre-identified participants, in predetermined services
- Staff assistance with medication is limited to services where the standard of care indicates a need to provide special emergency support. This is often determined by "benchmarks" in related services and organizations Example: extended service such as children's summer day camps (all day/all week/often repeated) which parallel licensed day care setting
- Established Department client referral process includes implementation of service-specific preventative measures and emergency protocols as part of this support

EMERGENCY MEDICATION

- Emergency medication does not replace 9-1-1 protocols, it is a bridge until support can arrive
- Details of participant's condition and medication is provided by a medical professional (prescribing doctor)
- Staff assistance is only with pre-defined EMERGENCY Medication (benadryl and/or autoinjectors e.g., epi-pens)
- Emergency medications used are non-prescription and do not require certification to administer
- Auto-injector devices do not require measurement or dosage assessment
- Contra indicators identified relate to delaying or NOT administering emergency medications

- 9-1-1 can deal with effects resulting from emergency medication administered in error
- Staff approved to assist with emergency medication will;
 - Have current 1 °1 aid
 - Receive advance anaphylaxis/severe allergies education (general and individual-specific)
 - Receive 9-1-1 protocols specific to life-threatening allergies/anaphylaxis
 - Have facility or cell phone support in place
 - Identify and pre plan individual-specific protocols
 - Have other staff on team or site established as support in emergencies

"ARE YOU ALLERGY AWARE?"

There is an increasing number of people who develop allergies. The range of allergy-causing substances (allergens) and the severity of reactions is also on the rise. Peanuts continue to be one of the most common and severe allergens and are the leading cause of allergic shock (anaphylaxis) which can occur within minutes and be fatal without immediate treatment. The best way to manage life-threatening allergies is to avoid contact with allergens. Although it's not possible to make places allergen free, we can all assist by helping to reduce the risks of exposure.

- How you and your child can help Cooperate with allergy-aware prevention strategies. Children will often graciously sacrifice their beloved peanut butter when they understand they can make their program a safer place for another child.
- If you or your child has a severe allergy Register as far in advance as possible and let staff know about the allergy. This gives them time to help you work out the best strategy for safe participation by you or your child.

People with special conditions such as severe allergies face many challenges. Each one of us can help reduce the risks in our community by being "allergy aware".

Preventative: Form letter to all participants and Summer Camps

Dear Parents,

RE: MEDICAL DANGER

One of our summer camp participants has a life-threatening allergy to:

We are asking for your understanding and cooperation in order to minimize the risk of accidental exposure to this product by this child. We cannot guarantee an allergen-free service, but a lot can be done to create an allergen-aware environment... and you can help!

Some of our own in-program preventative strategies include; hand washing of everyone before and after food, no snack sharing, and a review of supplies and refreshments provided. Where possible, we are also setting up special emergency training and support in programs with severely allergic participants.

We are asking you to please check the ingredients of all foods that your child is bringing to this program. It is often a challenge to get children to eat healthy meals and snacks, and we understand that replacing lunch time favourites such as peanut butter can be difficult. However, we do know that when the children understand that

they can help make a program safe for another child, they are often willing to make that sacrifice.

Parents of severely allergic children who want to be able to participate in programs and services with their friends like "everyone else", face many challenges- With your cooperation we can minimize the risk of an allergic reaction and ensure a wonderful experience for this child - as well as yours!

Anyone wishing further information about our Allergy Policy initiatives, or having product questions relating to this program, are encouraged to contact:

Program Supervisor: _____

Location: _____ Phone #: _____



This document is complimentary and is provided from the National Recreation Database by the [Lifestyle Information Network \(LIN\) www.lin.ca](http://www.lin.ca)

