

Ellsworth Schools Stock EpiPen

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 state law, WI Statutes 118.29 (2).(a)2m, 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 this 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 in each building. Each school in Ellsworth will be stocked with 2 EpiPen Auto-Injector packs (each pack contains 2 pens). EpiPens come in a Junior Dose for those between 33 and 66 pounds and the regular dose for those over 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 locked box labeled Epi Pen The boxes are locked at all times, but the kits are accessible with the key kept in the office or by breaking the glass with a hammer attached to the box. The EpiPens will remain at school and will not be taken on Fieldtrips.

Training:

Office personnel and building administrators who are consistently in the buildings during teacher contract hours, health room paraprofessionals and other staff designated by the licensed 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. School Nurse will be responsible for the training of building personnel.