

Anaphylaxis

1.3.1 Anaphylaxis

Preparing an anaphylaxis response kit

page 8 – Australian Immunisation Handbook 9th ed.



Preparing an anaphylaxis response kit

- The availability of protocols, equipment and drugs necessary for the management of anaphylaxis should be checked before each vaccination session

An anaphylaxis response kit should be on hand at all times and should contain:

- Adrenalin 1:1 000 (minimum of 3 ampoules – check expiry dates)
- Minimum of three 1 ml/syringes and 25mm length needles (for IM injection)
- Cotton wool swabs
- Pen and paper to record time of administration of adrenaline, and
- Laminated copy of Recognition and treatment of anaphylaxis (back cover of the Handbook)

**Antihistamines and/or
hydrocortisone**

**are not recommended for the
emergency management of
anaphylaxis**

Adrenaline Dose

- Adrenaline 1:1 000 (one in one thousand)
- Adrenaline 1:1 000 contains 1 mg of adrenaline per ml of solution in a 1 ml glass vial
- Adrenaline 1 in 10 000 is no longer recommended for the treatment of anaphylaxis. The use of 1:1 000 is recommended because it is universally available
- Use a 1 ml syringe to improve the accuracy of measurement when drawing up small doses.

- The recommended dose of 1:1 000 adrenaline is 0.01 ml/kg body weight up to a maximum of 0.5ml given by deep IM Injection
- **Injection is not to be given in the deltoid**
- **INJECTION IS TO BE GIVEN IN THE THIGH**

Age	Adrenaline Dose
Less than 1 year	0.05-0.1 mL
1-2 years (10 kg)	0.1 mL
2-3 years (15 kg)	0.15 mL
4-6 years (20 kg)	0.2 mL
7-10 years (30 kg)	0.3 mL
11-12 years (40 kg)	0.4 mL
12 years and older	0.5 mL (over 40kg)
Up to 0.5 mL is given at 5 minute intervals till patient becomes conscious	

Management of Anaphylaxis

- The initial management of anaphylaxis is key to the outcome of the client.
- If not treated the client's airway may close off from swelling resulting in death.
- Note that a child's airway is considerably smaller than an adult, thus increasing the risk.
- Adrenaline has a rapid onset but a short duration of action, therefore it is vital for the Health care provider to understand the protocol for the management of anaphylaxis and initiate a call for an ambulance immediately

Dealing with a situation – show and tell!!!

1. What are the cardinal signs of anaphylaxis
2. How can you tell the difference from a faint
3. List the five steps of Management of Anaphylaxis
 - Describe the purpose, action, dosage, route and side effects of adrenaline.

PURPOSE

- In an emergency – adrenaline acts as a bronchodilator
 - Causes narrowing of the blood vessels resulting in the opening of the bronchial tubes

ACTION

- Adrenaline has a rapid onset of action
 - It stimulates the sympathetic nervous system
 - It is the initial drug for treating bronchoconstriction and hypotension resulting from anaphylaxis

DOSAGE

- As discussed – refer to chart

ROUTE

- Given by deep intramuscular injection into the thigh (not the deltoid region)

ADVERSE REACTIONS

- Headache
- Nausea
- Restlessness
- Weakness
- Hypertension