

Emergency or NOT— Know the Difference

Post Vaccine Observation - Symptom Management

Common complaints that may warrant additional observation time

- ✓ Dizzy
- ✓ Faint
- ✓ Weak
- ✓ Pallor
- ✓ Cold
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Clammy
- ✓ Lump in throat
- ✓ May pass out and/or have low BP
- ✓ Warm sensation
- ✓ Tickle or itchy

Assess before calling 911-EMS

- ✓ Able to speak
- ✓ Able to drink fluid
- ✓ No swelling to lips, face, or eyelids
- ✓ Breathing with no difficulty
- ✓ Vital signs are stable
- ✓ Vasovagal symptoms? [faint, clammy, syncope, weak, sweaty, low BP] – refer to *Vasovagal Symptom Management*

Severe Allergy Symptoms – generally more than 1 of the following

- ✓ Difficulty breathing
- ✓ Swollen/Tight throat
- ✓ Gasping for air
- ✓ Difficulty swallowing
- ✓ Chest tightness
- ✓ Wheezing leading to inability to breathe
- ✓ Loss of consciousness or passing out
- ✓ Weak and rapid pulse
- ✓ Coughing or hoarseness
- ✓ Choking sensation

*This information is to provide guidance, not to be confused with using clinical sound judgement within your scope of practice during emergency situations.

STANDING ORDERS

Administer as needed for moderate to severe allergic reaction.

If Epinephrine given –
911 **MUST** be activated

- Epinephrine 1:1000 0.3mL x 1 every 5 minutes as needed to lateral thigh [up to 3 doses maximum]
- Benadryl 25-50mg x 1 IM for itching or hives

If you administer Benadryl – may cause drowsiness. If driving, confirm another person can pick patient up. – 1 out of 5 may experience a 2nd anaphylactic reaction within 12 hours of the 1st

*if Benadryl and/or Epinephrine is administered to patient, a VAERS report is required

Vasovagal Symptom Management

- Lay person down
- Raise legs
- Monitor VS – BP will be low

If shows improvement within a few minutes (not anaphylaxis)

- offer water and snack
- extend observation
- apply cool compress if needed
- document symptoms resolving