

Policy Title:	Allergies and Anaphylaxis
Effective Date:	14 th December 2010
Review Date:	As necessary under the Policy and Procedure Development Policy

POLICY STATEMENT

Inner City Care (ICC) will facilitate effective care, health management and emergency management in children who have allergies and in children who are at risk of anaphylaxis.

Inner City Care has a nut free policy in that we do not provide any food or condiments with nuts in them for the children, as many children are highly allergic. If children need snacks for the trip home these should be left in the Centre Office in case there are any traces of nuts, etc. in these foods.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

This policy was adapted from:

- Health & Safety in Children's Centres: Model Policies and Practices, 2nd Ed. 2003
- NSW Anaphylaxis Training Programme In-service in February 2005

This policy was ratified by the Management Committee in June 2006; the Nut Free Policy and Epipen information was added in May 2007 after Management Committee, Staff Meeting and parent discussions.

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

Food allergies are common in children under five years of age. The most common allergies are to milk, egg and peanut. Many children are also allergic to other nuts, fish, shellfish, wheat, milk products, soy, sesames, seed and some fruits. Children may also be allergic to insect stings, plants and pollens, etc. The most severe form of allergic reaction to any substance is anaphylaxis and effective immediate management requires adrenaline i.e. Epipen.

POLICY DETAIL/ BUSINESS RULES

- It is imperative that families provide information on children's health – including allergies, medications, diet, etc. An Anaphylaxis First Aid Plan or Emergency Medical Plan approved by their doctor needs to be provided to the Centre prior to a child at risk of anaphylaxis starting.
- All staff need to be aware of children who have allergies and what they are allergic to prior to the child starting at the service – children's photos and descriptions of their allergies and food descriptions are displayed in prominent places in the rooms of the Centre (with permission from their parents to do so).
- Doctor's recommendations and prescribed doses must be adhered to in respect of administering medication and treatment in emergencies – refer to Management of Unwell Children Policy.
- If a child is showing symptoms then administer first aid or medical treatment according to either
 - the child's Anaphylaxis First Aid or Emergency Medical Plan (the Centre will ensure staff regularly attend training in the administration of adrenalin), or
 - a doctor's instructions, or

- staff members will administer the adrenalin as per the instructions on the product packaging.
- If none of these are available or the child is not a previously recognised anaphylaxis sufferer, follow first aid procedures as per the Senior First Aid course. All permanent staff should have a Senior First Aid Certificate.
- Most importantly: call (0)000 for an ambulance and notify the family in accordance with the emergency contact procedure.

AUTHORITIES AND ACCOUNTABILITIES

The Centre Director is responsible for ensuring all ICC staff have training in this policy. All ICC staff are accountable for the implementation of this policy.

OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION

Management of Unwell Children Policy
Applying First Aid Procedure

APPROVAL

Approved by Management Committee	
<p>Signature: Title: Date:</p>	
Meeting date:	14th December 2010
Policy Owner:	Inner City Care
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