

Valley Medical Group, P.C.
Clinical Policy and Procedure

Title: Medical Management of Vaccine Reactions

Purpose: Provide Medical Management for possible reactions to vaccines in children and adults.

Policy: Vaccine patients/recipients will be screened for vaccine contraindications and precautions prior to vaccination to minimize the likely hood of an adverse event.

Process:

1. Patients/recipients of vaccines will be screened prior to vaccination utilizing an established screening tool, such as provided by the Centers for Disease Control and/or Immunization Action Coalition.
2. Staff administering vaccine will know how to recognize allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis.
3. Medical supplies to respond and provide appropriate medical care should an event occur will be available any time vaccinations are administered.
4. Medical Supplies to be available are detailed in the "Emergency Box/Bag and AED Maintenance Policy".
5. The table below describes the steps to take if an adverse reaction occurs following vaccination.

References: Immunization Action Coalition

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Medical Management of Vaccine Reactions in Adults in a Community Setting

Adapted from the Immunization Action Coalition

REACTION	SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS	MANAGEMENT
Localized	Soreness, redness, itching or swelling at the injection site	Apply a cold compress to the injection site. Consider giving an analgesic (pain reliever) or antipruritic (anti-itch) medication.
	Slight bleeding	Apply pressure and an adhesive compress over
	Continuous bleeding	Place thick layer of gauze pads over site and maintain direct and firm pressure; raise the bleeding injection site (e.g., arm) above the level of the patient's heart.
Psychological, fright, presyncope, and syncope (fainting)	Fright before injection is given	Have patient sit or lie down for the vaccination if possible
	Patient feels "faint" (eg. Light-headed, dizzy, weak, nauseated, or has visual disturbances)	Have patient lie flat. Loosen tight clothing and maintain open airway. Apply cool damp cloth to patients face and neck. Keep them under close observation.
	Fall, without loss of consciousness	Examine the patient to determine if injury is present before attempting to move the patient. Place patient flat on back with feet elevated.
	Loss of consciousness	Check to determine if injury is present before attempting to move the patient. Place patient flat on back with feet elevated. Call 911 If patient does not recover immediately.
Anaphylaxis	<p>Skin and mucosal symptoms such as generalized hives, itching, or flushing; swelling of lips, face, throat, or eyes.</p> <p>Respiratory symptoms such as nasal congestion, change in voice, sensation of throat closing, stridor, shortness of breath, wheeze, or cough.</p> <p>Gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, cramping abdominal pain.</p> <p>Cardiovascular symptoms such as collapse, dizziness, tachycardia, hypotension.</p>	See the emergency medical protocol on the next page for detailed steps to follow in treating anaphylaxis,

Emergency Medical protocol for the management of anaphylactic reactions in adults in a community setting.

1. If itching and swelling are confined to the injection site where the vaccination was given, observe the patient closely for the development of generalized symptoms.
2. if symptoms are generalized, activate the emergency medical system (EMS e.g. call 911) and notify the practitioner. Notification should be done by a second person, while a member of the healthcare team assesses airway, breathing and circulation and level of consciousness of the patient. Vital signs monitored continuously.
3. DRUG DOSING INFORMATION: The first line and most important therapy in anaphylaxis is epinephrine. There are NO absolute contraindications to epinephrine in the setting of anaphylaxis. Medication dosing information in the chart below.

Epinephrine 1:1000 (Aqueous 1ml=1mg) (autoinjector or prefilled syringe)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be repeated every 5 – 15 minutes (or sooner as needed) up to 3 doses • Maximum dose is 0.3ml regardless of age • IM or SQ injection into the anterolateral aspect of the thigh. <i>Injection into smaller muscles such as the deltoid is not recommended</i> • DO NOT administer repeated injections of epinephrine to the same site. • DO NOT inject into the buttock. 		

MEDICATION	AGE	USUAL DOSAGE
Epinephrine		
Infants 0.05 – 0.1 ml	Less than 6 months	0.05 ml
Children 0.1 -0.3 ml	6 months – 2 years	0.10 ml
	2 years – 5 years	0.15 ml
	6 years and older	0.20 ml
Adolescents/Adults 0.3 ml <i>(Adolescents age 12+)</i>	50 – 100 lbs.	0.30 ml
Benadryl (Adults)		
Oral 25mg	12.5mg/5 ml liquid OR 25 or 50mg tablets	
Injection 50mg		
Benadryl (Children under 12)		
1-2 mg per kg per dose every 4-6 hours	12.5mg/5 ml liquid	

4. Monitor the patient closely until EMS arrives. Perform CPR if necessary and maintain airway. Keep patient in recumbent position unless he or she is having difficulty breathing. If breathing is difficult, patient's head may be elevated, provide blood pressure is adequate to prevent loss of consciousness of the patient. Monitor blood *pressure and pulse every 5 minutes.*
5. Record the patient's reaction to the vaccine, all vital signs, medications administered, and any other relevant clinical information.
6. Notify the patient's primary care practitioner.
7. Report the incident to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS)

VACCINE REACTION DOCUMENTATION

Documentation of Vaccine Reactions Requiring Medical Intervention (Implementation of the Protocol for Management of Anaphylactic Reaction)

Vaccine reactions requiring medical intervention during the time following administration of the vaccine will be documented in the medical record for:

- VMG Patients
- VMG staff and practitioners who do not have a patient chart and who are vaccine recipients at VMG Health Center and/or Vaccine Clinic run by VMG

VMG Patients

Create an encounter with the covering provider for the vaccine clinic

Document in this encounter the care provided in response to the vaccine reaction

VMG Staff and Practitioners Who Do Not Have a Patient Chart

- Create a registration in Athena for the vaccine recipient
- Create an encounter in Athena (not in the employee record) with the covering provider for the vaccine clinic
- Document in this encounter the care provided in response to the vaccine reaction
- These encounters are workman's comp events (see policy >>>)
- If employee/practitioner is unable to provide needed information for registration in Athena, call Human Resources.

Refusal of Treatment for Vaccine Reaction

If a vaccine recipient refuses treatment in response to a vaccine reaction, the Against Medical Advice Form will be completed.

Vaccine Reaction Reporting

Healthcare providers are required by law to report to Vaccine Event Reporting System (VAERS).

<https://vaers.hhs.gov/>

Reported include:

- Any adverse event listed in the VAERS Table of Reportable Events Following Vaccination that occurs within the specified time period after vaccinations

An adverse event listed by the vaccine manufacturer as a contraindication to further doses of the vaccine

- Vaccine recipients may report vaccine reactions to the
- Vaccine Event Reporting System at <https://vaers.hhs.gov/>
- Dedicated phone number/website on
- V-Safe

Other documents to completed: See Employee Injury and Vaccine Reporting Policy.