



ALLERGIC REACTION / ANAPHYLAXIS

Anaphylaxis is an acute allergic reaction characterized by varying degrees of respiratory distress, hypotension, wheezing, hives, non-traumatic edema, and tachycardia. It may be precipitated by a bite or sting or from exposure to certain drugs or allergens. Respiratory Distress is categorized as follows:

- **Minimal Distress:** A slight increase in work of breathing with no wheezing or stridor evident.
 - **Moderate Distress:** A considerable increase in work of breathing with wheezing and/or abnormal breath sounds evident.
 - **Severe Distress:** Extreme work of breathing (retractions) with a decreased LOC.
- A. Perform **Initial Treatment / Universal Patient Care Protocol** and follow the proper protocol for medical management based on clinical presentation.
- B. If reaction is secondary to a sting, remove injection mechanism, if present.
- C. If patient is in minimal distress with hives or itching but no or minimal respiratory distress (no wheezing or stridor):
1. Reassess for improvement or worsening of reaction.
 2. Transport without delay and contact **Medical Command**.
- D. If patient is in moderate distress with severe hives and/or moderate respiratory distress (wheezing), contact **Medical Command**:
1. Patient has prescribed **Epinephrine** auto-injector (EpiPen® or EpiPen JR®):
 - a. Has patient taken dose?

b. Administer pre-loaded **Epinephrine** (EpiPen®) **per Medical Command**. 
 2. No prescribed **Epinephrine** auto-injector (EpiPen® or EpiPen JR®):

a. Adult: Administer pre-loaded **Epinephrine** (EpiPen®) or administer **Epinephrine** 0.3 mg IM injection **per Medical Command**. 
 3. Expedite transport if not already in transport.
 4. Reassess and contact **Medical Command**.

ALLERGIC REACTION / ANAPHYLAXIS

5. If the adult patient is still wheezing, administer Albuterol 2.5 mg combined with **Ipratropium Bromide (Atrovent®)** 0.5 mg (Combi-Vent / Duo-Neb) with oxygen 8-10 LPM **per MCP order**. If **Ipratropium Bromide (Atrovent®)** is contraindicated or the patient is a pediatric, administer **Albuterol** only.
6. If patient is still in moderate distress, consider repeating **Epinephrine** one time **per MCP order**.
7. Further treatment **per order of Medical Command and MCP**.
8. Reassess and expedite transport.



E. If shock continues, treat **per Adult Shock Protocol 6108**.

Note:

1. **Epinephrine** should be used with caution in patients > 65 year of age or with history of hypertension or cardiac disease.
2. If the patient only has hives and no respiratory distress or shock, **Epinephrine** is not indicated.