

Supplies needed for every vaccination site

- Epinephrine syringe or autoinjector (Epi-Pen or equivalent), at least three. Epinephrine must be 1:1000 dilution.
- Blood pressure cuff and stethoscope
- Watch or timer to take a pulse
- H1 blocker (diphenhydramine or similar) **Do not use Benadryl or another H1 blocker as the first treatment or only treatment for anaphylaxis. Give epinephrine first.**
- Can also have pulse oximeter, oxygen, albuterol, H2 blocker (famotidine or cimetidine), IV fluids, bag-valve mask, intubation kit

Watch every patient after vaccination

- Watch everyone for at least 15 minutes after their shot
- If someone has had a severe allergic reaction (also called anaphylaxis) in the past, watch them for at least 30 minutes after their shot

What to watch for

- Lung problems: shortness of breath, wheezing, cough, whistling or high pitched breathing, or a feeling that the throat is closing
- Digestion problems: nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
- Skin problems: hives, itching, or swelling of lips, face, or throat
- Low blood pressure, fast heart rate, dizziness or fainting

What to do if someone has a reaction

- Quickly assess airway, breathing, circulation and mentation
- Call 911
- Lie the patient down unless they are having a hard time breathing or are vomiting
- Give them 0.3mg epinephrine intramuscularly in the mid-outer thigh
- Repeat every 5-15 minutes, or as soon as every 3 minutes, as needed to control symptoms while waiting for EMS
- They will need to be watched for several hours in a medical facility even after all symptoms go away
- Antihistamines (H1 or H2 blockers) and bronchodilators **are not first line treatments for anaphylaxis**. They can provide relief for hives and itching (antihistamines) or breathing problems (bronchodilators) but should only be given **after** epinephrine.

Afterwards: REMIND the patient they can't get another dose and need to talk to their doctor or an allergist

REPORT the event to VAERS. <https://vaers.hhs.gov> or by calling 1-800-822-7967. Also notify V-SAFE: <https://www.cdc.gov/vsafe>

More information: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/anaphylaxis-management.html>