



BCHC +
Better Care: Healthier Communities

Children and Families Division

MEDICAL NEEDS TRAINING BCHC Plus Service September 2020 Newsletter

for Staff working in Birmingham Schools, Colleges & Early Years Settings

STOP PRESS: Adrenaline Auto-injector Alerts (EMERADE)

Please read Safety Alert update on reverse

In these challenging times! We thought it would be timely & helpful to provide an update on the training and support available and to also share some current medical needs news.

We have undertaken a rigorous risk assessment and taken a wide range of measures to ensure that the training we provide complies with the latest government advice on Covid-19 safety.

We are currently only providing **essential** medical needs training, that which could result in a life threatening medical emergency.

We are limiting the number of topics to no more than two per visit.

Due to social distancing regulations and rapidly changing advice, please contact us to discuss your individual requirements as there are several delivery options available including remote delivery.

Training currently available:

Allergy, including **practical hands on** session, which is not often included in First aid training. All training equipment is fully sanitised prior to each training session. Our training includes information on the current brands of Adrenaline Auto-injectors available in the UK.

Different brands of Adrenaline Auto- injectors are not used in exactly the same way and therefore **specific training and advice is required for each of the devices.**

The importance of this element of training has recently been highlighted in a "Prevention of Future Deaths" report.

The training will also include an update on any recent changes in managing allergic reactions including current best practise and sharing lessons to be learnt from local and national incidents

- **Asthma** including the use of a reliever inhaler and spacer devices
- **Epilepsy** inc use of Epilepsy Emergency Rescue medication (Buccolam) for children at risk of prolonged seizures
- **Buccolam (Epilepsy emergency rescue medication)** this training should only be accessed as a stand-alone training if recent Epilepsy training has been accessed.

Once the current Covid restrictions have eased we will reintroduce the following training sessions:

- **Febrile Convulsions**
- **Diabetes** Awareness
- **Eczema** Awareness
- **Medication Administration**

Frequency of Training

Training for all staff should **be refreshed annually** to enable settings to be fully inclusive.

Please note if you have a child with Epilepsy/Seizures who requires emergency rescue medication (e.g. Buccolam) training **MUST** be accessed before you can administer this medication and then training **must be updated annually**.

Emergency Medication Kits

All settings **MUST** have a procedure in place to ensure that emergency medication kits are checked regularly especially for expiry dates.

Emergency medication kits must always accompany the child on all offsite visits. These kits also need to be taken when outside during Fire drills/Fire alarms etc as staff cannot re-enter the building.

Emergency Medication Kits include:
Allergy/Adrenaline auto-injector medication,
Asthma reliever inhaler/spacer devices,
Diabetes Hypoglycaemia emergency kits &
Emergency Rescue Medication (Buccolam) for children at risk of prolonged seizures.

September is a Peak Month for Children to have Asthma Attacks – Why?

Many children develop colds when they start/return to nursery/school with viral infections being one of the biggest triggers for young children with asthma.

Also, if children have a dust mite allergy, then being inside more as the nights draw in and the weather changes could make their asthma symptoms flare up.

Allergies to mould spores that are around at this time of year could also trigger asthma attacks.

Be prepared!

Please ensure all children who have a reliever inhaler (blue) at home, also keep an inhaler (blue) and spacer device at the setting/school also ensure that the child has an Asthma care plan in place.

Safety Alert



During 2019/2020 the MHRA issued several safety alerts and has **recalled ALL strengths of EMERADE** Adrenaline auto-injector devices. If you have a child in your setting that has an EMERADE Adrenaline Auto-injector please read 18/05/2020 alert & update at: www.anaphylaxis.org.uk

These alerts highlight the importance of the advice to **always to have x 2 in-date Adrenaline auto-injectors available at all times**

Allergy Action Plans (Care Plans)

All children who have emergency allergy medication available in settings **MUST** have an Allergy Action plan in place.

Allergy Action plans are developed by a healthcare professional e.g. the Child's Health Visitor, School Nurse or Specialist Nurse

A copy of the Allergy Action plan must be kept together with the child's emergency medication kit which must be available at all times.

To discuss/arrange your training requirements please call: 0121 466 6266
Or email:
BCHCPLUS@bhamcommunity.nhs.uk