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Dear Patients,

We have decided it is in the best interest of our patients to make it mandatory to carry an Epipen when you receive a shot. If you do not have your Epipen with you in the office, you will not receive your allergy shot.

The Epipen is for emergency use only. Systemic reactions are rare, but they do occur. Most severe reactions will occur within 20 after receiving the injection. This is why we ask that you stay in the office for 20 minutes after receiving your shot so that the staff can monitor you closely. We are prepared to treat a reaction in the office, but delayed reactions can occur. It is for this reason that we ask that you purchase an Epipen.

If you begin to experience any of the following symptoms, you need to self-administer the Epipen.

- itching other than where the shot was administered*
- hives*
- shortness of breath*
- chest tightness*
- wheezing*
- swelling of the throat or difficulty swallowing*
- an increase in severity of existing symptoms*

The Epipen should be administered in the outer thigh and may be administered through clothing. The Epipen does not replace the care of trained medical personnel. If you must use your Epipen, go to an emergency care facility immediately. The Epipen is for one time use only.

The Epipen is temperature sensitive and must not be kept in the car.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask one of the staff. Thank you!

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