

Fairfield University Student Health Center

Allergy Desensitization Injection Clinic Overview

The Fairfield University Student Health Center (SHC) is pleased to administer allergy injections to our students who are receiving immunotherapy prescribed by their private allergists. Students must be approved for participation in the clinic by the SHC and formally enrolled prior to setting up their first appointment. Students requesting administration of allergy desensitization injections at the SHC must meet certain criteria:

- Desensitization injections to bee, wasp or stinging insect venom may not be administered at the Student Health Center
- Students initiating allergy desensitization injections must be under their allergist's care for a minimum of one month prior to eligibility for allergy desensitization injection administration at the SHC
- The first dose of each vial must be administered at the prescribing allergist's office
- Medical records of students with previous systemic reactions to allergy desensitization injections must be reviewed by the Student Health Center physician before allergy desensitization injections may be administered at the Student Health Center
- All physician orders must be in writing
- The injection regime must be manageable by a university health service (e.g. consideration will be given to the number of injections, the frequency of injections; additionally, the dose must be measurable and not require dilution)

The Allergy Desensitization Injection Clinic is open Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. by appointment. Once enrolled in the clinic and approved, students may call (203) 254-4000, Ext. 2241 for an appointment. **At least a 20 minute wait is required after each injection.** Students need to plan accordingly.

To assure a high standard of quality of care, an allergy immunotherapy checklist is completed by the Student Health Center annually and whenever new vials of serum are ordered. Required information is as follows:

- Antigen content and concentration for each vial(s)
- Expiration dates of each antigen vial(s)
- Vial(s) numbered, lettered, or color coded to correspond to physician's orders
- Schedule of dosage and frequency of each injection ordered by the allergist
- Prescribing allergist instructions for missed or late injections
- Plan for management of local reactions from the allergist
- **Mandatory Physician Form** completed by ordering physician*

All items on the above list must be completed before any allergy injections are administered in the Student Health Center.

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All physician orders must be in writing; **no** telephone orders will be accepted. Written orders by the prescribing physician may be faxed to the Student Health Center at (203) 254-4263.

The first dose of each new vial must be given by the ordering physician.

Allergy serum is **not** to be mailed to the Student Health Center. Students are responsible for delivering allergy serum in person to the Student Health Center. Allergy serum will also be picked up by students for vacation breaks and closing of the academic year.

***Allergy desensitization injections will NOT be administered without the physician signed Mandatory Physician Form.**

This form is available at www.fairfield.edu/healthcenter .

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