

Goucher College

1021 Dulaney Valley Road
Baltimore, MD 21204
410-337-6050/ fax 410-337-6051

Allergy Injection Policy and Procedure

Goucher College Health Center offers an allergy injection service for students receiving immunotherapy ordered by their private allergist. Registered nurses are available to administer injections, coordinate the clinic, and consult with private allergists as indicated.

To receive allergy injections, you must be currently under the care of an allergist, who you must visit at least once a year. If you are just starting allergy injections, you must receive the first two from your allergist. (There is a limit to the number of allergy injections given at any one visit. If more than two allergy extracts are to be used, then we will refer you to a local allergist's office to receive them.)

To utilize this service, please follow the steps below. If you have questions, you may call 410-337-6050 to speak with an allergy nurse.

1. Before coming to school be sure you have the following from your allergist:

Current vials must be clearly labeled with the following:

- Student's name
- Expiration date
- Contents of each extract
- Strength of each extract

Injection schedule must clearly indicate the following:

- Student's name
- Prescribing physician's name, address, and phone & fax numbers
- The extract to be used
- Contents and strength of extracts
- Dosage, frequency of injections, and date of last injection
- Instructions for treatment and dose adjustments for reactions
- Instructions for dose adjustments for missed or late shots
- Instructions for ordering new vials
- Date and reaction of last dose administered
- Copy of this policy and procedure signed by your allergist

2. Before you receive your first injection, you must consult with the allergy nurse. During this approximately 20-minute appointment, the nurse will prepare your allergy chart, review your allergy information, and have you sign the allergy injection policy and a medical information release form. Allergy injections will not be provided at this time. Once you have arrived on campus, call the Health Center at 410-337-6050 to schedule your allergy consult appointment. Please bring all vials, schedules, and instructions to your initial allergy consultation.
3. You are expected to come for the regularly scheduled injections, except in cases of illness. Failing to maintain the injection schedule may require a call to the allergist, which could further extend the wait time. Any student missing three appointments without notification may have the privilege of obtaining allergy injections revoked.

4. **Allergy injections are only given when a physician is present in the Health Center.** Allergy injection clinic hours are available by appointment on most Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 9 to 11 a.m. There are no walk-in allergy appointments.
5. Due to the possibility of a serious reaction, there is a *mandatory* 30-minute wait in the Health Center when you receive your injection. All students must remain in the waiting room until the injection sites are checked by a nurse. There are no exceptions.
6. Notify the nurse during your waiting period if you experience any of the following symptoms: swelling or itching at the injection site, wheezing, shortness of breath, coughing, hives, facial swelling, "pins-and-needles" sensations of skin, flushing, runny nose, nasal congestion, or sneezing.
7. You will be notified when the allergy extract is low. It is your responsibility to reorder and obtain replacement allergy extract. Allergy extracts must be mailed directly to you, not to the Health Center.
8. You are responsible for informing the Allergy Clinic staff of any changes in address, phone number, health conditions, or allergy information.
9. Vials left unused at the Health Center will be discarded after the expiration date.
10. Delayed reactions are possible. Persistent or severe symptoms require immediate medical attention by calling 911 and the Office of Safety and Security at 410-337-6111. For mild symptoms, take an antihistamine as advised by your allergist (Allegra, Zyrtec, Claritin or Benadryl). Report any delayed reaction to the nurse *before* receiving any additional injections.
11. It is recommended to wait 48 hours before and after allergy injections before receiving any other type of immunizations, such as Flu vaccine.
12. Avoid vigorous exercise (jogging, gym workouts, etc.) at least one hour—preferably two—before and after injections.
13. Please refer to the fee schedule for allergy injections. Fees may be paid by cash, check, one card or billed to your tuition account at each visit. The Health Center does NOT bill insurance.

I have read and understand all of the above.

Student's Signature _____ Date _____

To the Allergist:

I am aware and agree to the above allergy injection policy for my patient, _____

Physician's Signature _____ Date _____