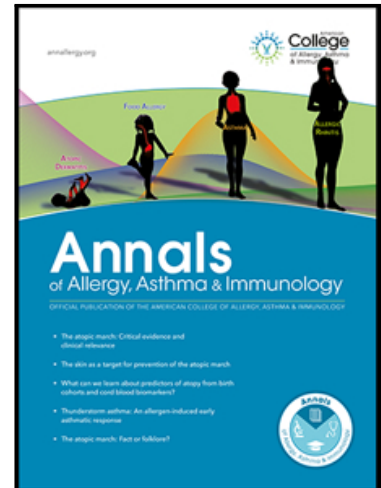


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Risk Factors for Multiple Epinephrine Doses in Food-Triggered Anaphylaxis in Children

Angela Tsuang MDMSc , Nikhil R. Menon MD , Natasha Bahri MD ,
Lawrence S. Geyman MD , Anna Nowak-Wegrzyn MDPHd

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Title: Risk Factors for Multiple Epinephrine Doses in Food-Triggered Anaphylaxis in Children

Angela Tsuang, MD, MSc; Nikhil R. Menon, MD; Natasha Bahri, MD; Lawrence S. Geyman, MD; Anna Nowak-Węgrzyn, MD, PhD

Division of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Pediatrics, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY

Correspondence to Anna Nowak-Węgrzyn, MD, PhD, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, One Gustave L. Levy Place, Box 1198, New York, NY 10029, USA. Tel: +1 212 241 5548; fax: +1 212 426 1902; e-mail: anna.nowak-wegrzyn.mssm.edu

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Abstract: Background: Food-related anaphylactic reactions may require treatment with more than one dose of epinephrine. Current guidelines advise patients at risk of anaphylaxis to carry two epinephrine autoinjectors.

Objective: The objective of this study was to determine risk factors of multiple dose epinephrine treatment in pediatric food-related anaphylaxis.

Methods: Parents of children with physician-confirmed diagnosis of food allergy were administered a standardized questionnaire at the time of their clinic visit. These patients were then followed-up prospectively by phone.

Results: Six hundred forty-two subjects had allergic reactions. Twentysix percent of patients reported at least one reaction treated with epinephrine for a total of 221 reactions. Among reactions treated with epinephrine, twenty-four reactions (11%) received two or more doses of epinephrine. The most common triggers were milk (30%) and peanut (18%). Milk-triggered allergic reactions (odds ratio (OR) 3.2, 95% confidence interval (CI) 1.2-8.4) and treatment with oxygen (OR 5.0, 95% CI 2.0- 12.4) were significant risk factors for requiring multiple doses of epinephrine to treat an allergic reaction.

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