Anaphylaxis algorithm

Anaphylactic reaction?

Airway, Breathing, Circulation, Disability, Exposure

Diagnosis - look for:

- Acute onset of illness
- Life-threatening Airway and/or Breathing and/or Circulation problems '
- And usually skin changes
 - Call for help
 - Lie patient flat
 - Raise patient's legs

Adrenaline ²

When skills and equipment available:

- Establish airway
- High flow oxygen
- IV fluid challenge 3
- Chlorphenamine
- Hydrocortisone

Monitor:

- Pulse oximetry
- ECG
- Blood pressure

1 Life-threatening problems:

Airway: swelling, hoarseness, stridor

Breathing: rapid breathing, wheeze, fatigue, cyanosis, SpO₂ < 92%, confusion

Circulation: pale, clammy, low blood pressure, faintness, drowsy/coma

2 Adrenaline (give IM unless experienced with IV adrenaline) IM doses of 1:1000 adrenaline (repeat after 5 min if no better)

 Adult 500 micrograms IM (0.5 mL)

Child more than 12 years: 500 micrograms IM (0.5 mL)

Child 6 -12 years: 300 micrograms IM (0.3 mL)

 Child less than 6 years: 150 micrograms IM (0.15 mL)

Adrenaline IV to be given only by experienced specialists Titrate: Adults 50 micrograms; Children 1 microgram/kg

3 IV fluid challenge:

Adult - 500 - 1000 mL Child - crystalloid 20 mL/kg

Stop IV colloid

if this might be the cause of anaphylaxis

4 Chlorphenamine

250 micrograms/kg

(IM or slow IV) (IM or slow IV) 10 mg 5 mg 2.5 mg

Child 6 - 12 years Child 6 months to 6 years

Adult or child more than 12 years

Child less than 6 months

⁵ Hydrocortisone

200 mg 100 mg 50 mg

25 mg

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