

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. Please review the following information carefully.

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 two months 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.
- Students with a history of systemic reactions to allergy injections are not eligible to receive allergy desensitization injections at the Student Health Center.
- All physician orders must be in writing and can be faxed to the Student Health Center at #203-254-4263. No telephone orders accepted.
- The Student Health Center will only administer allergy injections to students receiving maintenance doses – no build ups permitted.
- 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 Hours:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., and
- Wednesdays: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., *by appointment only.*

Once approved and enrolled in the clinic, students may call **(203) 254-4000, Ext. 2241** for an appointment. At least a 20-minute wait is required after each injection. Students should 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) on vials and paperwork
- 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
- Instructions for missed or late injections ordered by prescribing allergist
- 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.

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 also needs to be picked up by the student for vacation breaks and the closing of the academic year.

If you do not qualify for the allergy desensitization clinic at the Student Health Center there are two allergists in the area that have served our students.

Please contact the Student Health Center for more information.