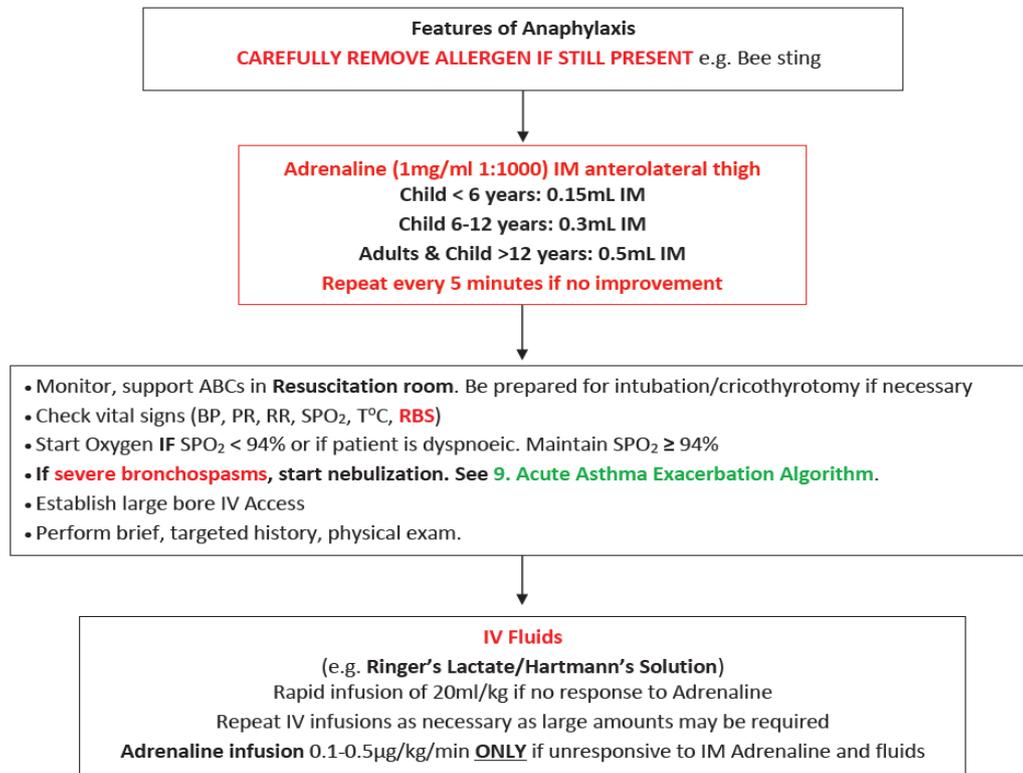


ANAPHYLAXIS ALGORITHM

A patient meets the definition of **anaphylaxis** when **ANY 1** of the following 3 criteria are fulfilled:

1. Acute onset of **mucocutaneous signs AND 1** of the following:
 - respiratory compromise (wheezing-bronchospasm, dyspnoea, stridor, hypoxemia),
 - hypotension (syncope), or
 - hypotonia.
2. Rapid onset of **2 of the following** after exposure to likely allergen:
 - mucocutaneous signs,
 - respiratory compromise,
 - hypotension, or
 - persistent gastrointestinal symptoms.
3. **Hypotension** after exposure to a known allergen.

Patients with **simple allergic reactions** who **DO NOT** meet the criteria for anaphylaxis may be managed similarly **WITHOUT** the use of adrenaline.



Patients with **risk factors for severe and potentially fatal anaphylaxis** may need careful observation for **up to 24 hours**:

- Delayed administration of epinephrine
- Asthmatic component to their anaphylactic reaction
- Previous history of biphasic reactions
- Cardiovascular disease
- Possibility of continuing absorption of allergen
- Poor access to emergency care
- Presentation in the evening or at night
- Severe reactions with slow onset caused by idiopathic anaphylaxis

Patients diagnosed with anaphylaxis who are **not high-risk** should be discharged in the care of others with clear indications for immediate return to the emergency department (ED).