

Reactions

I know it's taken a few weeks for me to write this reflection as well as our other that is due, but in retrospect I'm glad I waited. After watching all the videos and getting through the lectures and test I feel like I'm able to connect everything together, and it's come full circle. When I was in my freshman/sophomore year of high school my older sister had an anaphylactic reaction to penicillin. I had come home from school and was making a snack when my sister made a comment to my mom and I that she was itchy, we didn't think much of it, and she showed us a few bumps on her arms that we "wrote off" as bug bites. Within 5 minutes she was on the floor covered head to toe in welts/rashes complaining that she felt like her throat was closing. We got in the car and hauled butt to our PCP, where even after seeing her reaction, they made us wait in the waiting room. After about 10-15 minutes I look up after hearing something that sounded like it hit glass, and there was my sister with her eyes rolled back, unresponsive. My mom went full momma bear and flung the "employees only" door opening screaming "I need EPI right now!!!". My parents being in the medical field had seen this before and known what to do, but I had no earthly idea what had just happened, and now I have a full understanding. Even though that story took up most of my reflection, it has been the story I've thought back to constantly throughout this lecture, test, and videos. For me to now know other signs/symptoms and be able to differentiate between allergic reaction/anaphylactic reaction, I feel like I'll be able to react faster in these types of situations if it ever happens again and know the different steps to take in making sure everything turns out okay.

***I also have a story of me going into shock after giving plasma in high school, and my whole family has CONSTANT allergies mainly due to weather/environment. So, if you ever want to hear more about that or want me to write more in depth let me know!