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Reaction Paper on Reactions Video

Watching the series of videos made me realize how terrifying and dangerous reactions are. Oddly enough, there are multiple factors that would cause a reaction. It can range from a wrong blood type to mistakingly inhaling a pollen. These substances, called antigens, will trigger a reaction to the mast cells. The mast cells will release histamine and will travel in the blood stream, causing several effects in one or more body parts. Most reactions are mild, but the severe reactions are what we call anaphylaxis. In the skin, it may cause sweating, hives, and itching. In the lungs, however, we get more life-threatening reactions such as trouble breathing, lung tightness, and congestion. In an event of anaphylaxis, it is vital that we administer epinephrine immediately. Epinephrine comes as a rescue injection that must be injected in the thigh as soon as symptoms show. These are expensive medications but are very important for survival, especially for people that have multiple environmental allergies. Epinephrine shots, usually called EpiPen and is injected in the thigh, help open the constricted blood vessels in cases of anaphylaxis. After giving epinephrine shot, it is also important to seek medical attention as soon as possible to prevent even more severe reactions from occurring.

Another thing I've learned from watching the videos that fascinated me are the staggering numbers of people with allergies. The 700 Million Dollars lost on productivity due to seasonal allergies took me by surprise, especially that the video I watched was in 2013. How much would've been lost now 9 years after? The chances of getting the same allergies as your parents is also surprising. My mother is allergic to shellfish and she passed that down to me as well. Whenever I eat crabs and head-on shrimp, I get really bad hives. We always end up running to find Benadryl on our medicine cabinet.

Lastly, the videos also taught me how important the nurses are when anaphylactic situations arise. We need to quickly recognize the signs and symptoms and remove the causative agents from our patients. If it is caused by an IV medication or blood transfusion, stop it immediately. In a case where we cannot retrieve, remove, or stop the infusion, the next step would be to reverse the effects, starting with the ABC. Always start by asking the patient's history, which includes his allergies and medications.