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Reflection for Reaction Videos

Through watching all of these videos, I have come to enjoy all the information portrayed and received some eye opening knowledge. I was further educated on the pathophysiology of anaphylaxis and learned some new information that I was always curious about.

For an anaphylactic reaction, I knew that it was a systemic allergic reaction that depends on a certain individual's sensitized response to a foreign material, or allergen. Additionally, I understood that the allergen interacts with the IgE antibody which is connected to the mast cells and the IgE antibody connected to it, which overall activates the production of histamines throughout the bloodstream. Though I was knowledgeable about the idea of pathophysiology, I never quite understood the depth and reasoning behind that. However, the animation video made it very easy to comprehend, as I am a visual learner. That video conveyed that when the antigen binds to the IgE receptor it sends a signal to the interior of the mast cell which leads to a calcium influx and results in degranulation. After that process of releasing histamine, I learned that those histamine mediators flow through the body to certain organs and create those side effects such as vasodilation or vascular permeability. Furthermore, another one of the videos explained that when that process of vasodilation and releasing of fluids happen, that is what causes the drop of blood pressure in the anaphylactic shock. Finally, another topic I was educated on with anaphylaxis was with an epipen. I didn't know prior to watching these videos that if the first time an individual were to inject the epipen and it didn't work to its full potential, they can administer another dose. Additionally, if symptoms of anaphylaxis appear again within a few days of being treated that is what they call a biphasic anaphylaxis. I thought both of those things were very interesting because I always just assumed that when one uses epinephrine or gets treated that is the end and they're "fine" per se.

Some new information I was informed on and found fascinating was about allergies. In one of the videos, he conveyed the idea about how an allergy develops, which some still can't quite fully grasp. It was said that some individuals think that when an individual's immune system is weakened and they come in contact with that allergen is when the body might create that allergy and think it is now a foreign material. With that being said, I agree with that thought because I never understood why some people don't become allergic to something later in life or out of the blue. For example, my sister randomly one day had a flare up of hives all over her neck and face and her eyes were really inflamed. When the symptoms first appeared she thought it was just some regular allergies with the pollen or whatever. However, the symptoms got worse, so she went to the doctor to find out that she was having an allergic reaction to gold. To this day, I have found it so interesting why her body all of a sudden created a reaction to gold as she is 24 years old and had been wearing gold jewelry most her life.