

Resolution 022
A Resolution to Expand Epi-Pen Access
Sponsored by: Senator Curioso
Co-Sponsored by: Senator Musick, Senator Suarez

Whereas,

The Student Government Association (SGA) Senate-07 unanimously passed Resolution 043.

Whereas,

Resolution 7-043, to Advance An Allergy-Safe Campus Community, advocated for epinephrine auto-injectors to be placed in the Eatery and an expansion of training and awareness programs for Department of Public Safety officers, Residence Life staff, and other University staff members.¹ However, very little of what this resolution called for has been implemented as of Spring 2023.

Whereas,

Anaphylactic reactions, triggered by a number of factors, including but not limited to food, environmental changes, and/or medications, can happen at any time to anyone, with any allergy, regardless of whether they were previously aware of them.²

Whereas,

Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) are required by federal law to be placed in conspicuous places in public buildings since they are lifesaving antidotes to prevent and respond to heart attacks.

Whereas,

CUA has placed AEDs at the information desk in the Pryzbyla Center and behind the counter where students swipe in at Garvey Hall.

Whereas,

Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction which can occur within seconds or minutes of exposure to something you're allergic to, such as peanuts or bee stings.³

Whereas,

An anaphylactic reaction may occur moments to hours after exposure or consumption of the triggering allergen, and an epinephrine auto-injector remains as the only emergency antidote. The most common brands of auto-injectors include the EpiPen and the Auvi-Q models.

¹ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_Q_Bp-Y0v5XAhvGKKbqKp41GwxHrwzKY/view

²

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5589409/#:~:text=Up%20to%205%25%20of%20the,with%20hospital%20admissions%20for%20anaphylaxis.>

³ <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/anaphylaxis/symptoms-causes/syc-20351468#:~:text=Anaphylaxis%20is%20a%20severe%2C%20potentially,as%20peanuts%20or%20bee%20stings.>

Whereas,

The Epinephrine Amendment Act of 2015 (DC Law 21-27) mandates “all public and public charter schools to stock a minimum of two undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors and to have a minimum of two staff members trained in the identification of anaphylaxis and the emergency use of epinephrine auto-injectors.”⁴

Whereas,

Many students have items in their dorms (food, beverages, latex, etc.) or consume food and drinks in the dining facilities which may trigger anaphylaxis unintentionally in others who may pass by.

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby requests:

1. The placement of epinephrine auto-injectors next to the automated external defibrillators (AEDs) located in the Pryzbyla Center and Garvey Hall.
2. Infographics advertising the presence of epinephrine auto-injectors, and informing the University community on how to use them, be posted online and where the epinephrine auto-injectors are placed.

Agreed to by a vote of _____ yeas to _____ nays on this date: _____ with _____ abstaining and _____ not present.

Anthony Crnkovich
President of the Student Government Association

Maevis Fahey
Vice President of the Student Government Association

⁴ “Allergy Management in Schools,” Office of the State Superintendent of Education, <https://osse.dc.gov/page/allergy-management-schools#:~:text=To%20ensure%20students%20with%20life,members%2C%20outside%20of%20the%20school>