



Schweizerische Maligne Hyperthermie Vereinigung
Association de l'Hyperthermie Maligne Suisse
Associazione da l'ipertermia Maligna Svizzera
Associazione Ipertermia Maligna Svizzera

Malignant Hyperthermia – Information for Teachers

Name..... Class:.....

Phone Parents:

Phone Paediatrician:

One parent of the above mentioned child has been diagnosed with malignant hyperthermia at the lab in Basel, Switzerland. He or she is sensitive to malignant hyperthermia after the criteria proposed by the European Hyperthermia Group.

What is malignant hyperthermia?

Malignant hyperthermia (MH) is a genetically transmitted mutation rendering the concerned person allergic to certain anaesthetics. The reaction causes a very dangerous metabolic malfunction, resulting in life-threatening rises in body temperature up to 43°C (109.4° F) which is characterising for malignant hyperthermia. Once the body has heated to this point, rescue is often impossible.

However, there is no need to worry about everyday life – malignant hyperthermia is not contagious and does not cause any pain to the concerned person. People suffering from malignant hyperthermia can however be narcotised by means of specific medication. In case of an accident the risk of a reaction is even higher and therefore, this information must be taken seriously.

What to do in case of an accident?

1. Keep your calm
2. Putting the injured child in a recovery position and looking out for him/her has first priority
3. Contact parents/paediatrician or hospital and inform about the MH-risk
4. Repeat the fact that an MH-risk exists at the paediatrician's office or hospital. In case anaesthesia is necessary (even if it is only for a brief moment of time) a local anaesthesiologist should be consulted

The child should carry either a medical ID card or a medallion stating all necessary information.

Remain persistent in case hospital personnel or doctors do not take your concerns seriously, this is only a manifestation of ignorance. In case the child needs to be narcotised, the person in charge of the child safety should demand to speak to the anaesthesiologist. As long as this was not the case, anaesthesia must not be administered.

Further information can be found on our homepage www.smhv.ch