Welcome to Elson Student Health!

Our staff are happy to work with you while you are here at school to allow you to continue the immunotherapy ordered by your outside Allergist. While here at UVa, you will remain under the care of your Allergist at home. Maintaining this relationship will allow you to be re-evaluated annually, and/or receive guidance if you get off schedule; develop new symptoms, or experience difficulty controlling existing symptoms. Success will require a team effort between you, your Allergist and our staff.

Prior to coming to school:

- Plan in advance. Give your Allergist’s office time to prepare records and package your vials for transport. Please have them complete a copy of the Hand-off-of-Care form and forward it to us by fax. The form allows them to provide a summary of your therapy to date and informs them of your intent to temporarily receive immunotherapy in another setting. You will not be able to make your first appointment until we have received the form and reviewed the information.

Upon arriving at school:

- Once we have received the Hand-off-of-Care form, you may call 434-982-3915 to schedule an “Allergy Clearance” appointment. During this appointment, the allergy nurse will review all documentation provided by your Allergist to ensure it is complete. She will review your past medical history, allergy history, obtain a list of current medications, have you sign a consent form allowing us to communicate with your Allergist, review the scheduling guidelines, and prepare your chart.
- We will store your vials during the school year; however, you are responsible for transporting them back and forth during breaks and extended absences. Please bring your vials to Student Health upon arrival to grounds. Vials must remain in a constant controlled temperature to maintain the integrity of the serum.

Ongoing appointments:

- Once the Allergy Consultation is complete, you will be able to make all subsequent appointments through the self-scheduling system in Healthy Hoos. Injections are available Tuesday through Friday by appointment only. We request one day’s notice to allow us to review your chart and communicate with your Allergist’s office if adjustments to your schedule are necessary. Most students find a consistent time that works for them once settling into their class schedule for the semester.
- Please remember to cancel an appointment if you are unable to attend. Failure to do so will prevent another student from getting his or her injections. You will be charged for any appointment you fail to keep or cancel.

What to expect at your appointment:
Patients will react differently to their immunotherapy; therefore, a careful history is important prior to administering your injection(s). Please report any delayed or prolonged reactions following your prior injections, increase in seasonal symptoms, changes in medication, or updated information from your Allergist. This information is critical to determining your correct dose and to preventing any undesirable reactions to therapy.

The frequency of your visits is determined by guidelines established by your outside Allergist, and will vary depending upon your particular phase of immunotherapy. Staying within these guidelines is critical to being able to successfully progress through your series, and ultimately gain the desired therapeutic effects. There are times when unexpected things happen, however. If you find yourself off schedule, please call the Allergy Nurse. We can help you get back on track.

Some patients are required to take premedication prior to arrival. Failure to do so may result in an undesirable reaction which could be potentially life threatening. Forgetting your premedication will delay your appointment or result in you having to reschedule the appointment to a later date.

We will observe you for 30 minutes once you receive your injections. The Allergy Nurse will examine your injection sites prior to your leaving.

Alert the nurse immediately if you experience any swelling or itching at the site, wheezing, and shortness of breath, hives, facial swelling, runny nose, nasal congestion, sneezing, “pins-and-needles” sensation, or flushing of the face while you are waiting.

Our physicians are available, if necessary, to treat any large localized or systemic reactions. You may, however, need to be reevaluated by your Allergist prior to receiving any further injections by our Allergy Nurse.

We do not bill any insurance other than Aetna Student Health, but can provide you with the necessary paper work to do so. A statement for your visit will be available on the Healthy Hoos Patient Portal.

In-between appointments:

Please return to see us immediately if you experience a delayed reaction. Our After Hours Nurse is available to assist you when we are closed, and can be reached by calling 434-972-7004. If, at any time, you experience swelling in your throat, difficulty breathing, or a rapidly spreading rash, associated with weakness or a rapid heart rate, you should call 911 and go immediately to the nearest Emergency Department.

Prolonged absences:

Please plan ahead for vacations or prolonged absences. Prolonged illnesses or surgeries cannot be helped, but may still put you behind. Please update us if any of these occur.

Thank you for allowing us to assist you in achieving your therapeutic goals!

I have read, understand, and agree to the guidelines stated above.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: _______________