

Question: Can one predict the severity of anaphylaxis based on the presenting signs and symptoms

Answer: No

Generally: Anaphylaxis develops rapidly but exceptions exist

Cutaneous and other mild symptoms can be initial signs of severe anaphylaxis

Cutaneous symptoms absent in up to 20% of cases

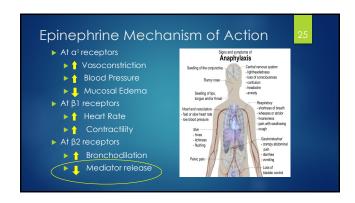
Severity can differ from patient to patient and in same patient from episode to episode



Antihistamines can be used to treat anaphylaxis initially... Myth

• Histamine one of many inflammatory mediators released
• Slow onset of action
• Not affective against anaphylaxis
• Prophylactic use during controlled immunotherapy not effective*
• Considered adjunctive therapy international guidelines
• Antihistamines should never delay epinephrine therapy







How should epinephrine be administered?

Intramuscular
ANTEROLATERAL
THIGH

