

I hope you will take into serious consideration the issue of allergy sufferers need for reasonable accommodation while travelling on all modes of transportation. Airplanes in particular are a cause for concern given the proximity to other travellers consuming possible allergens, and the time it takes to land an aircraft should there be a serious allergic reaction.

I believe with education, comes understanding and appreciation of the seriousness of allergic individuals and their situation. Training and protocols are essential.

I have witnessed my son at a year old swell up like a balloon, turn purple, and break into hives. It was traumatic seeing his reaction after being exposed to a tiny amount of peanut butter. Thank goodness the hospital was just down the street. Since then we have taken steps to ensure his safety including instilling in him personal responsibility, always carrying an epipen(s) and always inquiring about ingredients when eating out. When in doubt don't eat and/or leave the establishment. However, public transportation is another issue altogether particularly when in the air. Anyone I know who has witnessed someone go into anaphylactic shock, even if they were not a loved one were clearly shaken and then truly understood the need for protocols and no longer felt the safety of others as a burden.

In closing I just ask you to think of your own family and what you would want for them if you were in our shoes. All we ask is for appropriate accommodation whenever possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to address our concerns.

Gayle Girouard