

I am writing this note as I understand you are considering a number of matters on travel, including dealing with allergies.

My son has a severe peanut allergy and we travel fairly frequently (he is on planes 5-6 times per year). He always carries an epipen and we wipe his seat and bring him his own snacks for the flight to do our best to ensure his safety. We also advise the flight attendants to let others around us know of his allergy though as peanuts are still allowed on planes, there is always some level of risk.

In our last flight (August 2016 to San Francisco from Toronto), we advised the flight attendants of my son's allergy and they told the people right around us. Two guys in the row ahead of us obviously did not care as they continued to eat peanuts despite being told by the flight attendants and reminded again by us. The flight attendants did come over and tried to speak with the passenger though he was fairly belligerent as he explained he was a doctor and that we were all being ridiculous since peanut allergies are not airborne according to him. At that point, we had my son switch seats though it would have been nice if there was something more that the airline could have done (perhaps there was).

I think some consideration should be given to banning nuts/peanuts on all flights, especially those that are less than a certain length, and passengers knowingly violating rules, like this passenger, should be subject to some sort of fine.

I recognize that it is highly unlikely for a passenger to have a food borne reaction on a plane if they don't ingest anything, but given the logistics of getting from the plane to a hospital, it seems that extra care (and little cost or inconvenience to others) should be taken.

Thank you for your attention.

Jason Saltzman