

Implementation of a Food Allergy Prevention Platform in British Columbia

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Early Peanut Introduction

- Peanut allergy affects approximately 2% of Canadian children
- 2015: LEAP Study found that introducing peanut at about six months is effective at preventing peanut allergy in high-risk infants
- 2017: New NIAID guidelines on early peanut introduction
- ***How do we implement early peanut introduction with long waiting lists to see an allergist and the volume of patients who would require appointments?***



Pilot Project: Prevention of Peanut Allergy (PPA)

- Teaching PHNs how to disseminate recommendations on early introduction of peanut to mothers of newborns during a group learning session led by allergists.
- To increase the confidence and competence of public health providers in supporting parents with concerns about introducing peanut-containing foods as part of introduction to solids.
- To increase the confidence and competence of parents to offer peanut-containing foods in their homes as they introduce solids to their infants.

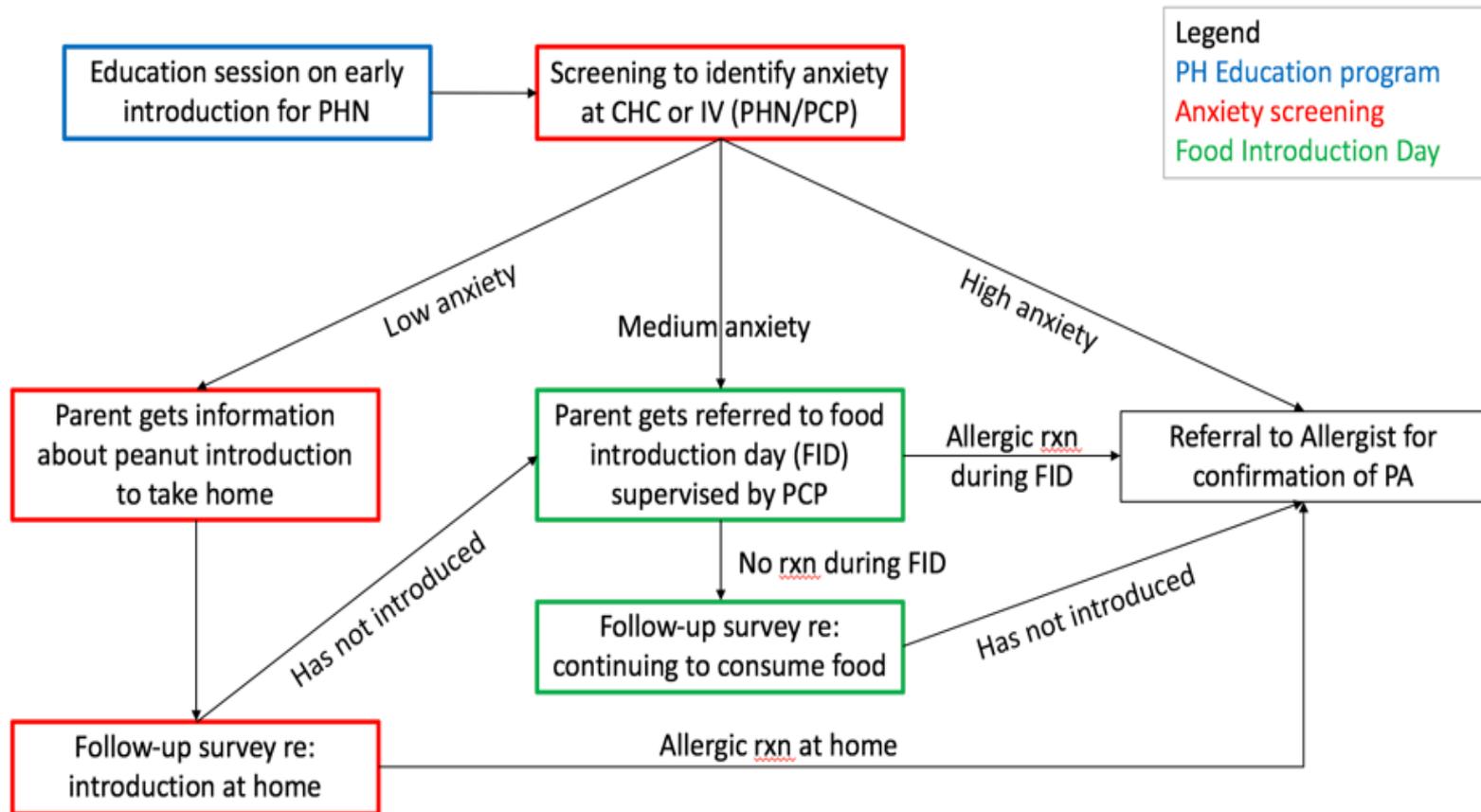


Extension of PPA: the FAPIIP

- Food Allergy Prevention Implementation Platform
- Three research-based ‘implementation science’ projects involving public health nurses (PHNs) and primary care physicians) PCPs to prevent peanut allergy:
 - Anxiety screening tool
 - Public health education program
 - Food Introduction Days



FAPIP Structure



Primary Beneficiaries

- **FAPIP will be able to educate, through PHN/PCP interventions, over 30,000 BC children per year on early introduction of peanut, and prevent 662 cases of peanut allergy per year.**
- Preventing peanut allergy in children would prevent many of the known consequences:
 - nutritional deficiency and growth stunting in young children
 - social isolation, bullying, and anxiety/depression in older children
 - anxiety, marital conflict, and loss of wages in parents of food-allergic children



Intended Results

- FAPIP will create a unique triage system to identify infants whose parents have medium/high of anxiety, to maximize the impact of limited healthcare resources in BC and ensure these infants get the highest level of care.
- FAPIP will prevent peanut allergy in 6,620 BC infants over 10 years.
- FAPIP will ensure seamless implementation of early peanut introduction guidelines into public health practice.



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