

MEDIA RELEASE – 22 NOVEMBER 2019

SHORTAGES OF EPIPEN JUNIOR PUTS THOUSANDS OF NSW CHILDREN AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES AT RISK

The Federal Government’s Therapeutic Goods Administration has confirmed shortages of EpiPen Juniors until at the earliest 31 January 2020. Rationing has also been proposed in order to maximise remaining supply which may thus negatively impact thousands of NSW children as well as early childhood education and care services.

“These shortages and pricing have also been difficult for some time now and we are talking with the Australian supply chain and governments to resolve supply and unintended regulatory compliance issues that can also further complicate the scarcity of supply,” said Chiang Lim, CEO of the Australian Childcare Alliance NSW.

New South Wales has currently 5,525 approved early childhood education and care services who may need EpiPen Juniors. They compete for EpiPen Juniors with parents, schools, hospitals, medical centres and emergency services.

“While we fulfil our regulatory requirements as well as the management of our children’s health needs, we need help from Australian Governments to find clinically appropriate alternatives and options. Our collective priority of course continues to be the health, safety and well-being of the children entrusted to us by their parents,” said Mr Lim.

ACA NSW is collecting information from NSW-based early childhood education and care services as well as NSW parents about their current and projected needs.

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Australian Childcare Alliance (ACA) NSW (www.nsw.childcarealliance.org.au) is the peak body for privately owned early childhood education and care services in NSW, numbering approximately 1,600 childcare services, employing over 25,000 staff and supporting over 125,000 families. ACA NSW provides advocacy, policy and regulatory and business support and advice, member services and professional development for members and their staff across the state.

**For further media inquiries, please contact
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