

To the CTA,

I am the parent of a son with multiple food allergies which include all nuts, sesame, fish and seafood, soy protein and all legumes. He is 20 years old and throughout these years we have travelled many times, mostly International flights, and always equipped with a supply of EpiPens, Asthma Meds and Food from home.

I cannot sufficiently express the overwhelming feeling of anxiety we have felt during these flights even after having taken all the appropriate precautions including contacting the airlines to inquire directly about their policies and procedures with regards to food allergies.

In our opinion Peanuts, Tree Nuts and Sesame snacks are amongst the most worrisome. These snacks served to many many people in such an enclosed and constricted area are eaten with your hands and the oily residue they leave behind easily create a contaminated environment dangerous to the allergic individual. For this reason we also do not think allocating a certain amount of allergen free seats addresses the issue sufficiently.

With so many alternative healthy snack options to serve instead, our recommendation would be to have a ban on all Peanut, Tree Nut and Sesame snacks from being sold or offered on airplanes and all other modes of travel where accessible emergency care is less likely to be available.

I think by eliminating mass distribution of snacks containing the top allergenic foods will be a significant step in creating a safer environment for many allergic passengers.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter,

Lucy Giordano