

Purpose: To allow for use of the Epi-Pen/Epi-Pen Jr. for life threatening anaphylaxis by authorized prehospital providers licensed at, or above, the Emergency Medical Technician level.

B S P**I. Indications**

- A. Life threatening allergic/anaphylactic reactions
- B. Use with Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis Protocol

II. Contraindications

- A. No absolute contraindications to life-threatening anaphylaxis
- B. CAUTION: Use with caution in patients with heart disease, high blood pressure, and stroke.

III. Technique

- A. **Use of the EpiPen is only allowed after Medical Control Contact for Basic EMT's and Specialists.** Epi is a standing order medication for Paramedics and, as such, the EpiPen may be administered as a standing order medication.
- B. The EpiPen is an auto-injector that injects medication into the subcutaneous tissue when the device is pushed against the skin. Injection is to be done in the anterolateral portion of the thigh.
 - i. Choose the appropriate EpiPen for the age of the patient
 - 1. Adult EpiPen is for use on patient 8 years or older
 - 2. EpiPen Jr. is for patients under 8 years
 - ii. Remove the auto-injector from the plastic carrying tube; save the tube for later disposal of the auto-injector.
 - iii. Grasp the auto-injector with the black tip facing downward
 - iv. Form a fist around the auto-injector
 - v. With your other hand, remove the grey activation cap
 - vi. Hold the black tip near the outer thigh of the patient
 - vii. Swing and jab into the outer thigh so the auto-injector is perpendicular (at a 90° angle) to the thigh.
 - viii. Hold FIRMLY IN THE THIGH for several seconds.
 - ix. Remove the unit and have the patient massage the injection area for several seconds.
 - x. Check the black tip:
 - 1. If the needle is exposed, the dose was administered.
 - 2. If the needle is not exposed, repeat the procedure.
 - xi. Dispose of the auto-injector into a sharps container.
 - 1. If a sharps container is not available:
 - a. Bend the needle back against a hard surface.
 - b. Carefully put the unit back into the carrying tube (needle first) without the grey activation cap.
 - c. Recap the carrying tube.
 - d. Dispose of the protected unit into a sharps container when the ambulance arrives.

IV. Documentation

- A. EMS providers will note any changes in the patient's condition and report those changes to on-line medical control, the arriving ALS ambulance, document changes on the run form and complete the EpiPen Utilization Form.
- B. The EpiPen Utilization Form will be turned in to the hospital pharmacy when resupplying the used auto-injector.

V. Accountability

- A. EpiPens will be stored in a securely locked compartment, in a temperature controlled area, of the EMS vehicle.
- B. EpiPens are the property of the pharmacies and will be replaced through KCEMS exchange program.

EpiPen Utilization Form
(Filled out by Department using or replacing EpiPens)

<u>DRUG</u>	<u>STANDARD QUANTITY</u>	<u>COUNT</u>	<u>EXPIRATION DATE</u>
EpiPen 0.3mg	2	_____	_____
EpiPen Jr. 0.15mg	2	_____	_____

Run Date: _____

Patient Name: _____

Physician: _____ (Medical Director)

EMT: _____

Hospital patient sent to: _____

Fill out and fax this form, along with a copy of the run form, to KCEMS at 451-8462.

Replace the used EpiPen from your department's back-up supply.

KCEMS will restock your back-up supply within 72 hours.

If your department's back-up supply is depleted, or if you use multiple EpiPens, and need to be resupplied sooner please contact KCEMS and either speak with a staff member or leave a message (with a call back number) on the Exposure Hotline and someone will return your call within 30 minutes.