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## **Basic EMT Epinephrine Injection Procedure**

**Purpose:** To allow use of epinephrine for life-threatening anaphylaxis by prehospital providers licensed at the Emergency Medical Technician level that have successfully completed a DEMCA approved training program.

### **1. Indications**

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

### **2. Contraindications**

- A. No absolute contraindications to life-threatening anaphylaxis
- B. Caution: Use with caution in patients with heart disease, high blood pressure, and stroke.
- C. Patient weight less than 10 kg.

### **3. Technique**

1. Determine that epinephrine IM is indicated by patient presentation and DEMCA Protocol.
2. Remove clothing to expose the patient's thigh.
3. Locate the correct injection site in the vastus lateralis.
4. Using a needle connected to a 1 mL syringe, draw up 0.3 mg (.3 ml) epinephrine from a vial containing 1 mg/mL. (Utilize BEES Card for dosing)
5. Attach the needle to a 1 mL syringe.
6. Pull the plunger of the 1 mL syringe so that it rests at the .3 mL mark.
7. Puncture the vial with the needle attached to the syringe, and then flip the vial upside down.
8. Push the plunger so that .3 mL of air is injected into the vial.
9. Draw up .3 mL of epinephrine.
10. Verify medication and dosage with a partner.
11. Squeeze the muscle to increase the size and depth of the injection site.
12. Insert the needle in a smooth motion at a 90° angle.
13. Draw back on the syringe and verify that blood is not present.
14. Administer the medication.
15. Remove the needle and place it directly into a sharps container.
16. Place a bandage over the site
17. Reassess the patient 3 to 5 minutes later for the desired effect.

### **4. Documentation**

- A. EMS providers will note any changes in the patient's condition and report those changes to on-line medical control and document changes on the run form and complete the Epinephrine Auto-injector Utilization Form.

### **5. Accountability**

- A. Epinephrine will be stored in a securely locked compartment in a temperature-controlled area of the EMS vehicle.
- B. Epinephrine must be restocked at the pharmacy or through other Medical Control approved process in conformity with current pharmacy laws and the public health code. Utilization forms must be completed for each use.