

EMS Administration**Date: 07/01/2023****Epinephrine Auto-Injectors for Schools****Policy #1700**

- I. **Authority:**
 - A. Education Code §49414, Business and Professions Code §4119.2, Health and Safety Code Division 2.5.
- II. **Purpose:**
 - A. Establish guidelines for school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to obtain epinephrine auto-injectors, implement training standards established in the California Education Code, and maintain an epinephrine auto-injector program.
 - B. Ensure all uses of epinephrine auto-injectors through this program are documented and reported to the EMS Agency Medical Director.
- III. **Definitions:**
 - A. “Anaphylaxis” means a potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity to a substance.
 - B. “Epinephrine auto-injector” means a disposable drug delivery system with a spring-activated needle that is designed for emergency administration of epinephrine to provide rapid, convenient first aid for persons suffering from a potentially fatal reaction to anaphylaxis.
 - C. “Authorizing Physician” shall be the Imperial County EMS Agency Medical Director.
 - D. “Qualified supervisor of health” may include, but is not limited to, a school nurse.
 - E. “Volunteer” or “trained personnel” means an employee who has volunteered to administer epinephrine auto-injectors to a person if the person is suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering, from anaphylaxis, has been designated by a school, and has received appropriate training.
- IV. **Policy:**
 - A. **Program Administration**
 1. Each school district, county office of education, and charter school, shall designate a qualified supervisor of health to oversee the epinephrine auto-injector program. If a qualified supervisor of health is not available, an administrator shall be responsible for the program.
 2. Each school district, county office of education, and charter school requesting a prescription for epinephrine auto-injectors, shall submit an “Epinephrine Auto-Injector Prescription Request” form for each school to the Imperial County EMS Agency.
 3. The qualified supervisor of health or the administrator shall designate volunteers to receive initial and annual refresher training as described below.
 - B. **Training Requirements**
 1. Designated volunteers shall receive annual training that includes, but is not limited to, the following minimum requirements:

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- a. Techniques for recognizing symptoms of anaphylaxis.
 - b. Standards and procedures for the storage, restocking, and emergency use of epinephrine auto-injectors.
 - c. Emergency follow-up procedures, including calling the emergency 911 telephone number and contacting, if possible, the pupil's parent and physician.
 - d. Recommendations on the necessity of instruction and certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
 - e. Instruction on how to determine whether to use an adult epinephrine auto-injector or a junior epinephrine auto-injector, which shall include consideration of a pupil's grade level or age as a guideline of equivalency for the appropriate pupil weight determination.
 - f. Written materials covering the information included in this section.
2. The training program shall be approved by the EMS Agency Medical Director.
 3. Training materials, including training rosters, written materials, and completed assessments shall be maintained by the school district, county office of education, or charter school for a minimum of four (4) years.
 4. Every five (5) years, or sooner, as deemed necessary by the Superintendent and/or EMS Agency Medical Director, the Superintendent shall consult with the EMS Agency to review the minimum standards of training for the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors.

C. Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

1. The EMS Agency Medical Director shall provide a prescription for each participating school district, county office of education, and charter school for epinephrine auto-injectors that at a minimum includes:
 - a. For elementary schools – one (1) regular epinephrine auto-injector, and one (1) junior epinephrine auto-injector.
 - b. For junior high schools, middle schools, and high schools, if there are no pupils who require a junior epinephrine auto-injector, one (1) regular epinephrine auto-injector.
2. The qualified supervisor of health, or administrator, shall be responsible for stocking the epinephrine auto-injector and restocking it if it is used.
3. A school nurse, or trained individual, may administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person exhibiting potentially life-threatening symptoms of anaphylaxis at school or a school activity.

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4. Each time an epinephrine auto-injector is used:
 - a. Emergency medical services shall be activated for follow-up care through the 911 system. Report the use of an epinephrine auto-injector to EMS first responders and/or ambulance personnel.
 - b. An “Epinephrine Auto-Injector Incident Report Form” shall be submitted to the EMS Agency within 72 hours.
 - c. The epinephrine auto-injector shall be restocked within two (2) weeks of use.
5. Epinephrine auto-injectors shall be restocked prior to expiration.
 - a. If there is a medication shortage, application for use of expired medications, or consulting with the Imperial County EMS Agency to determine current recommendations is encouraged prior to disposal of expired medications.

APPROVED:

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