



**Department of Health
and Human Services**

*Maine People Living
Safe, Healthy and Productive Lives*

Paul R. LePage, Governor

Mary C. Mayhew, Commissioner

Policy # [DLRS –DLRS – 00_]

Department of Health and Human Services
Licensing and Regulatory Services
41 Anthony Avenue
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011

Tel.: (207) 287-9300; Fax: (207) 287-9307

Toll Free (800) 791-4080; TTY Users: Dial 711 (Maine Relay)

Adoption Date: **3/1/16**

Reviewed Date:

Revision Date:

I. Subject

Epinephrine Auto-injector Training and Certification

II. Policy Statement

Pursuant to Section 1. 22 MRSA c. 423, the Division of Licensing and Regulatory Services (DLRS) shall identify healthcare practitioners who may train nonprofessionals in the use of epinephrine auto-injectors and will develop a form that the healthcare practitioner will provide to certify that the nonprofessional may utilize epinephrine auto-injectors in the treatment of anaphylaxis.

III. Policy Principles

A healthcare practitioner may prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of an authorized entity for use in accordance with Section 1. 22 MRSA c 423, *Access to Epinephrine Auto-injector*, and pharmacists and healthcare practitioners may dispense epinephrine auto-injectors pursuant to a prescription issued in the name of an authorized entity. A prescription authorized pursuant to 22 MRSA c 423 is valid for 2 years.

An authorized entity may acquire and stock a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors pursuant to a prescription issued in accordance with Section 1. 22 MRSA c 423. An epinephrine auto-injector must be stored in a location readily accessible in an emergency and in accordance with the instructions for use for the epinephrine auto-injector and any additional requirements that may be established by the department. An authorized entity shall designate employees or agents who have completed the required training to be responsible for storage, maintenance, control and general oversight of epinephrine auto-injectors acquired by the authorized entity.

An employee or agent of an authorized entity who has completed the required training may use epinephrine auto-injectors prescribed pursuant to Section 1. 22 MRSA c 423 to:

- A. Provide an epinephrine auto-injector to a person the employee or agent believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis, or the parent, guardian or caregiver of such a person, for immediate administration, regardless of whether the person has a prescription for an Epinephrine auto-injector or has previously been diagnosed with an allergy; and
- B. Administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person the employee or agent believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis, regardless of whether the person has a prescription for an Epinephrine auto-injector or has previously been diagnosed with an allergy.

IV. Policy Applicability

This policy is specific to the DLRS Medical Facilities Unit

V. Policy Definitions

Administer - to apply an epinephrine auto-injector directly to a human body

Adrenaline - a hormone secreted by the adrenal glands, especially in conditions of stress, increasing rates of blood circulation, breathing, and carbohydrate metabolism and preparing muscles for exertion

Allergen – a substance that causes an allergic reaction

Anaphylaxis - an acute allergic reaction to an antigen (i.e., a bee sting) to which the body has become hypersensitive

Antigen - a toxin or other foreign substance that induces an immune response in the body, especially the production of antibodies

Authorized entity - any entity, organization or place of employment, other than a school under Title 20-A, section 6305, in connection with or at which allergens capable of causing anaphylaxis may be present, including but not limited to recreation camps, youth camps, colleges, universities, day care facilities, youth sports leagues, amusement parks, restaurants and sports arenas.

Epinephrine - another term for adrenaline

Epinephrine auto-injector - a hypodermic device that administers a dose of epinephrine, used for the emergency treatment of anaphylaxis

Health care practitioner - an individual who is licensed, registered or otherwise authorized in the appropriate jurisdiction to prescribe and administer drugs in the course of professional practice.

VI. Policy Procedures

The DLRS authorizes the following healthcare practitioners licensed in the State of Maine to provide training to nonprofessionals in the appropriate use of epinephrine auto-injectors: physicians (MD and DO), advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNP), physician assistants (PA), registered nurses (RN), Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) and emergency medical technicians (EMT) or paramedics.

Training may be conducted on-line or in-person and must cover, at a minimum:

- A. How to recognize signs and symptoms of severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis;
- B. Standards and procedures for the storage and administration of an Epinephrine auto-injector; and
- C. Emergency follow-up procedures.

Once training has been completed, the healthcare practitioner will provide the trainee with a certificate (see Attachment A). The certificate will be in effect for a period of not more than 2 years. Reissuance of a certificate may be done upon retraining by a healthcare practitioner as identified in this policy.

DLRS will provide healthcare practitioners authorized to provide epinephrine auto-injector training with certificates that they may use to indicate completion of epinephrine auto-injector training, upon request. DLRS may require proof of professional licensure prior to providing epinephrine auto-injector training certificates.

VII. References: included in policy.

Section 1. 22 MRSA c. 423, *Access to Epinephrine Auto-injector*

Phyllis Powell
Director, DLRS

Date

ATTACHMENT A

Certificate of Training in the use of Use of Epinephrine Auto-injectors

I am a healthcare practitioner (MD, DO, ARNP, PA, RN, LPN or EMT) licensed in the State of Maine. I certify that _____ has completed anaphylaxis training and the use of epinephrine auto-injectors. The training included, at a minimum:

- A. How to recognize signs and symptoms of severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis;
- B. Standards and procedures for the storage and administration of an epinephrine auto-injector; and
- C. Emergency follow-up procedures.

This certificate of training allows the individual identified above to utilize epinephrine auto-injectors to treat severe allergic reactions, in accordance with the training provided, for the period of time covered by this certificate.

Certification start date: _____

Certification expiration date (not more than 24 months from certification start date): _____

Signature of healthcare practitioner providing training

Date