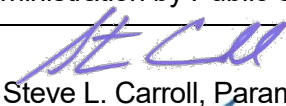



COUNTY OF VENTURA HEALTH CARE AGENCY		EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES	
Policy Title: Epinephrine Administration by Public Safety First Aid Personnel		Policy Number 1606	
APPROVED: Administration:	 Steve L. Carroll, Paramedic	Date: January 3, 2023	
APPROVED: Medical Director:	 Daniel Shepherd, M.D.	Date: January 3, 2023	
Origination Date:	May 13, 2021		
Date Revised:	May 13, 2021		
Date Last Reviewed:	November 10, 2022	Effective Date: January 3, 2023	
Review Date:	November 30, 2024		

- I. PURPOSE:
  - A. To outline criteria for approved Public Safety First Aid (PSFA) for the administration of epinephrine by auto injector for treatment of anaphylaxis.
  - B. To provide medical direction and epinephrine administration for approved PSFA optional skills provider agencies and personnel in the County of Ventura.
- II. AUTHORITY: California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5; California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 1.5, Section 100019
- III. POLICY:
  - A. PSFA personnel shall only be authorized to administer epinephrine via auto-injector for the treatment of anaphylaxis in patients aged 14 and older.
  - B. Training shall be completed in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Section 100019 and VCEMS Policy 1602 – PSFA Optional Skills and Training
  - C. PSFA agency training director shall be responsible for the following:
    1. Ensuring the agency’s supply of epinephrine auto injectors remain current and not expired at all times
    2. Ensuring proper and efficient deployment of epinephrine auto injectors and associated equipment for use within the agency
    3. Prompt replacement of any equipment/medication that is used during care, or that is expired, damaged, or otherwise deemed unusable
    4. Ensuring all personnel that will be administering epinephrine and/or utilizing any associated equipment have received appropriate training
    5. Maintain records of all documented use, restocking, damaged, expired or otherwise unusable epinephrine auto injectors and/or associated equipment

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. Indications

1. Exposure to a known or suspected allergen and any combination of two or more of the following signs and symptoms:
  - a. Hives, itchy, swollen tongue/lips
  - b. Respiratory compromise (wheezing, shortness of breath, stridor, hypoxia)
  - c. Persistent GI distress (vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain)
  - d. Hypotension (syncopal episode, decreased muscle tone, signs of shock, altered level of consciousness)

B. Contraindications

1. Patient is less than 14 years of age
2. No other contraindications for patients in the above situation

C. Epinephrine Administration

1. Ensure EMS has been activated through use of the 911 system
2. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and maintain body substance isolation precautions
3. Provide supplemental oxygen and assist ventilations, if authorized, per VCEMS Policy 1604 – Oxygen Administration and Basic Airway Adjunct Use by PSFA Personnel
4. Administer Epinephrine via auto-injector into outer thigh (may be administered through clothing)
  - a. If symptoms persist, may administer one (1) additional auto-injector dose in five (5) minutes for a total of two (2) doses
5. After Epinephrine administration, observe for improved breathing and level of consciousness. If breathing or level of consciousness do not improve, assist breathing with bag-valve-mask if available as authorized
6. Begin CPR if patient is not breathing
7. Report administration of epinephrine to prehospital personnel for additional assessment and follow-up care, as needed
8. Document administration of epinephrine as indicated per PSFA agency policies and procedures