### HOW TO USE EPIPEN® AUTO-INJECTOR

# Call 911 immediately after using the Epinephrine Auto-Injector

The effects of the epinephrine auto-injector begin to wear off after 10–15 minutes. It is very important to call 911 or the emergency number in your area immediately after using the epinephrine auto-injector. Your child could have another reaction and needs to be observed in the emergency department for at least 4 hours. Bring the epinephrine auto-injector with you to the hospital or give to emergency personnel when they arrive to safely dispose of it.

#### Steps in Using an EpiPen®

- 1. Remove the EpiPen® from the protective carrier tube by tipping and sliding it out.
- 2. Form a fist around the EpiPen® with the orange tip pointing down. Pull off the blue safety release.
- 3. Hold with the orange tip pointing toward the middle of the outer thigh.
- 4. Swing and press the orange tip **firmly** into the outer thigh until you hear a "click." Keep holding it firmly against the thigh for 3 seconds. Note: If you are administering to a young child, hold the leg firmly in place while administering an injection. EpiPen® may be used through clothing or directly on the skin.
- 5. Remove the EpiPen® from the thigh and massage the area for 10 seconds.
- 6. **Call 911 and seek immediate medical attention.** Tell them that your child has had an allergic reaction and that the EpiPen® was used.
- 7. Be prepared to use a second EpiPen® if symptoms do not improve or worsen in 5 to 15 minutes. Each EpiPen® is for **single use only**.

Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



This handout is for general information only. The information and above list are guidelines and do not include all symptoms. This document is not a substitute for being seen by a doctor. Always call your doctor if you have questions or seek emergency medical attention if necessary.



# When to Use EpiPen®

The EpiPen® auto-injector is an epinephrine shot used to treat severe allergic reactions (anaphylaxis). A severe allergic reaction can become fatal within minutes if untreated. Using epinephrine gives the life saving time needed to get further medical treatment.

#### SYMPTOMS OF ANAPHYLAXIS INCLUDE

Mouth: Itchy, swelling of tongue and/or lips

Throat: Itchy, tightness/closure, hoarseness, trouble breathing/swallowing

Skin: Itchy, hives, redness, swelling, red watery eyes

Gut: Nausea, vomiting, cramps, diarrhea

Lung: Short of breath, wheeze, repetitive cough

Heart: Pale or blue skin color, dizzy/faint, weak pulse

Neurological: Sense of "impending doom," irritability, change in alertness,

mood change, confusion **Other:** Itchy, red, watery eyes

#### Tips about EpiPen®

- Comes in two strengths and are prescribed based on the individual weight.
- An EpiPen® trainer is included in the box with the real EpiPen®.
- The trainer does not have medicine or a needle.
- Use the trainer to practice steps of giving the injection.
- Store at room temperature.
- Do not refrigerate.
- Do not keep in a vehicle during hot or cold weather.
- Do not expose to direct sunlight.
- Be sure the medicine is clear/colorless in the viewing window.
- Check the expiration date. If expired get a refill.

# Additional Information: epipen.com

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