



EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTOR (BLS OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT)

INDICATIONS:

Signs and symptoms of a severe allergic reaction, including facial/neck/tongue swelling, wheezing, shortness of breath, hypotension, loss of consciousness.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Chest pain of suspected cardiac origin

EQUIPMENT:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for potential blood exposure (gloves)
- Appropriate sharps disposal container
- Epinephrine auto-injector
- Oxygen delivery equipment

PROCEDURE:

- If co-responder or bystander available, instruct that person to activate the 9-1-1 system
- Use PPE for blood exposure
- Obtain epinephrine auto-injector to ensure that:
 - The auto-injector medication has not expired and the visible medication is clear
 - The auto-injector is the correct dosage for the patient
 - 0.3 mg epinephrine for adult patients
 - 0.15mg epinephrine for pediatric patients less than 12 years-old
- Remove the safety cap from the auto-injector
- Place the tip of the auto-injector on the mid-anterior lateral (to the front and outside of the midline) area of the patient's thigh, midway between the groin area and the knee (may place over clothing)
- Push the auto-injector against the thigh until you hear an audible click
- Hold the auto-injector in place until all of the medication is administered (about 10 seconds)
- Dispose of auto-injector in an appropriate sharps disposal container
- Reassess patient for improvement of symptoms
- Reassess vital signs

DOCUMENTATION:

- Time of administration of epinephrine auto injector
- Dosage administered
- Patient's response to treatment and repeat vital signs

NOTES:

- Any patient receiving epinephrine by auto-injector pen must be upgraded to an ALS response
- Administering epinephrine auto-injector may be done while awaiting incoming ALS response

Approved:

Reviewed: N/A
Final Date for Implementation: 10/01/2017
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