

DPH Standards for Training Health Care Supervisor and Other Employees on Use of Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

The health care consultant must provide training and document the competency of every health care supervisor on administration of epinephrine auto-injectors.¹ However, due to the emergent nature of anaphylactic reactions, other employees may also be trained in the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector by the health care consultant. As with any medication, the parent/guardian and the health care consultant must have written approval on file. The parent/guardian authorization should also contain a separate approval for other trained employees to administer, or for self-administration by the camper.

Training Topics: An approved training will address, at a minimum, the following issues:

1. Confidentiality
2. Understanding Allergic Reactions and the Signs of Anaphylaxis
 - Mild versus Severe Allergic Reaction Symptoms
3. Allergy Management and Exposure Prevention for Campers with a Diagnosed Allergy
4. Emergency Action Plan for Anaphylaxis
5. Proper Use of an Epinephrine Auto-Injector
6. Documentation and Record-keeping

Test of Competency: Each health care supervisor, and other employees, who are trained in the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors by the health care consultant must have a documented test of competency to administer medications. At a minimum, they must:

1. Demonstrate safe handling and proper storage of epinephrine auto-injectors.
2. Demonstrate the ability to administer an epinephrine auto-injector properly.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction.
4. Describe allergy management and exposure prevention for campers with a known allergy.
5. Describe the proper emergency action to be taken in response to cases of severe allergic reaction:
 - steps to follow
 - when to call 911
6. Demonstrate the appropriate and correct record keeping regarding use of an epinephrine auto-injector.
7. Use resources appropriately, including the consultant, parent/guardian or emergency services.

¹ If HCS is a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, registered nurse or physician's assistant with experience in pediatric care, that certification is evidence of proper training and competency.