

EPI-PEN AUTO INJECTOR**In Effect: 05/05/2017****Review Date: 05/05/2018 @ 1409****EPI-PEN AUTO INJECTOR**

STOW POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY & PROCEDURE NO. 1.24	ISSUE DATE: 5/5/17
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/5/17
MASSACHUSETTS POLICE ACCREDITATION STANDARDS REFERENCED: N/A	REVISION DATE: _____

I. BACKGROUND

The administration of the Epi-Pen Auto Injector by the First Responder is an approved skill that allows the First Responder to administer Epinephrine to the patient through an auto injector. The administration of Epinephrine reverses the effects of the allergic reaction.

To be in-line with current standards, and to assure continuity of patient care, the Stow Police Department will train its members in the Epi-pen Auto Injector as per the standards set forth by the Office of Emergency Medical Services as indicated in the Massachusetts Statewide Treatment Protocols version 2016.2.

In order to implement a safe and responsible Epi-Pen Auto Injector plan, the Department will establish and maintain a professional affiliation with a Medical Control Physician (MCP) who will provide medical oversight over its use and administration. The Medical Control Physician shall be licensed to practice medicine within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. At his or her discretion, he or she may make recommendations regarding the policy, oversight, and administration of the Epi-Pen Auto Injector program developed and implemented by the Department.

In order to implement this policy the Stow Police Department relies upon the following statutes:

MGL Ch. 11c, s201 which establishes a guideline for first responder training. The Stow Police Department is also following the standard and guidelines set forth by the Office of Emergency Medical Services as indicated in the Massachusetts Statewide Treatment Protocols version 2016.1, section 2.2A and 2.2P Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis Adult/Pediatric.

MGL Ch 11C, s.21 which states; No EMS personnel certified, accredited or otherwise approved under this chapter, and no additional personnel certified or authorized under section 9, who in the performance of their duties and in good faith render emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, transportation, or other EMS, to an injured person or to a person incapacitated by illness shall be personally liable as a result of rendering such aid or services or, in the case of an emergency medical technician or additional personnel, as a result of transporting such person to a hospital or other health care facility, nor shall they be liable to a hospital for its expenses if, under emergency conditions they cause the admission of such person to said hospital.

II. DEFINITIONS

Epi-Pen Auto Injector: An administration of Epinephrine through an auto injector that reverses the effects of an allergic reaction.

Medical Control Physician: The Medical Control Physician, herein after referred to as MCP, shall be a designated Medical Doctor who is licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts. The Stow Police Department has entered into a Memorandum Of Agreement with Emerson Hospital. The Chief of Police or his designee shall periodically consult with the MCP to review overall training, equipment, procedures, changes to applicable laws and regulations and/or the review of specific medical cases. At his discretion, the MCP may partake in training members of the Stow Police Department.

Body substance isolation: Body substance isolation, herein after referred to as BSI shall mean, in the context of a First Responder responding to a medical emergency, equipment that is provided to members of the Stow Police Department which is including, but not limited to nitrile protective gloves, eye protection, N95 respirator masks and tyvek suits.

III. POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to rapidly treat and improve the overall survival rate of patients experiencing an anaphylactic reaction.

It is the policy of this Department that:

- A. Epi-Pen Auto Injector kits will be deployed in all marked Department vehicles for the treatment of anaphylaxis.
- B. A patrol unit shall be dispatched to any call that relates to an allergic reaction.
- C. The goal of the responding officers shall be to provide immediate assistance via the use of the Epi-Pen Auto Injector when appropriate, to provide any treatment commensurate with their training as first responders, to assist other EMS personnel on scene, and to handle any criminal investigations that may arise.

IV. PROCEDURE

A. Administration of Epi-Pen Auto Injector during Out-of-hospital Anaphylactic Reaction

When an officer of the Stow Police Department has arrived at the scene of a medical emergency prior to the arrival of EMS and have made a determination that the patient is experiencing an allergic reaction the following steps should be taken:

1. Scene safety shall be assured and body substance isolation should be employed.
2. A medical assessment of the patient identifying the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, which are:
 1. Hives/Rash usually diffuse throughout the body
 2. Difficulty breathing
 3. Swelling of lips, eyes and tongue
 4. Tightness and swelling of the throat
 5. Dilation of vessels causing a decrease in blood pressure and an increase in heart rate
 6. Severe abdominal pain
3. The officer shall administer the Epi-Pen Auto Injector if it is determined the patient is experiencing signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis (severe distress)
 1. Adult dose under 65 years old and greater than 55lbs 25 kg- 0.3mg Epinephrine via auto injector
 2. Children over 6 months old and under 55 lbs (25 kg) - 0.15mg

Epinephrine via auto injector

4. Remove the safety cap
5. Move aside bulky clothing if time allows
6. Grasp the Epi-Pen Auto Injector and plunge the end of the Epi-Pen directly into the thigh
7. Hold in place for 3 seconds
8. Place the used Epi-Pen in a safe location to be transported to the hospital with the patient
9. Signs of improvement of the patient's condition should be noted.
10. Update incoming EMS of the treatment as well as the condition of the patient

B. Reporting

A complete offense report in the event shall be completed by the treating officer, or the primary responding officer.

A written inventory documenting the quantities and expirations of Epi-Pen Auto Injector supplies shall be kept. The log book will also document the issuance of replacement units.

C. Equipment and Maintenance

It shall be the responsibility of officers to inspect the Epi-Pen Auto Injector kits stored in the AED case prior to the start of each shift to ensure that the kits are intact. Epi-Pen Auto Injector kits shall be returned to the AED storage area at the end of each shift.

Damaged equipment shall be reported to a shift supervisor immediately.

The Department's Medical Services Officer will maintain a written inventory documenting the quantities and expirations of Epi-Pen Auto Injector replacement supplies, and a log documenting the issuance of replacement units.

D. Replacement

Shift supervisors shall immediately replace Epi-Pen Auto Injector kits that have been used during the course of a shift.

E. Training

Officers shall maintain their First Responder certification and will attend one practical training session per year with the Stow Fire Department outlining the use of the Epi-Pen Auto Injector and related concerns.

