

# Pediatric 6mo to 5yo Emergency — Know What to Do

## Post Vaccine Observation - Symptom Management

### When & How to Administer Epinephrine?

- ✓ ANY sign of airway involvement; **oral swelling, rhinorrhea/congestion, drooling, cough, vocal change/hoarseness or perception of something in throat, wheeze, stridor, accessory muscle use**
- ✓ Any severe **full body hives OR TWO** symptoms involving GI, Integumentary, Cardiac, or Neuro. **i.e. hives w/ nausea, pallor w/ vomiting, etc.**
- ✓ There are no contraindications to administering Epi. When in doubt, err on the side of caution, **ADMINISTER EPI.**
- ✓ Injecting through clothes is okay. Don't worry about taking off clothing.
- ✓ Hold Epi injection needle in place x 10 seconds before removing the needle from patient.

### I Administered Epi...Now What?

- ☑ Keep calm and provide emotional support to family.
- ☑ Continue to monitor for advancing symptoms, take vital signs and administer additional epi dose(s) every 5-15 minutes. [max 3 doses]
- ☑ Confirm 911-EMS has been contacted and are on their way.
- ☑ Document; include times of each administration, Vital Signs, EMS transfer and Hospital patient is being transported to.

### After Epinephrine is Administered ...How Will my Patient Feel?

- ✓ Fast, irregular or 'pounding' heartbeat
- ✓ Feelings of over excitement, nervousness, or anxiety
- ✓ Sweating
- ✓ Shakiness
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Paleness
- ✓ Dizziness
- ✓ Weakness
- ✓ Nausea and vomiting or
- ✓ Breathing problems.

**\*\*These side effects usually go away quickly, especially with rest.**

**\*\*4-12 hours after antigen exposure, a cough and wheezing may persist in the patient, along with swelling and redness of the skin. This is known as the late-phase hypersensitivity reaction which can last from approximately 1-3 days and is caused by the release of additional mediators from the mast cells and basophils.**

### STANDING ORDERS

Administer Epi as needed for signs of anaphylaxis.

- Epinephrine 1:1000 every 5-15 min PRN
  - 0.1mg/mL Auto-Injector for under 33lbs
  - 0.15mg/mL Auto-Injector for 33-65lbs
  - 0.3mg/mL vial for those 66lbs or >
- Epi can be given up to 3 x maximum
- No Benadryl IM Necessary, if Under 33lbs
- Benadryl IM may be necessary for severe allergic reaction ONLY for children >33lbs

911-EMS must be contacted immediately for all anaphylactic episodes. VAERS must be completed for all Adverse Reactions.

**Emergency Medicine is weight-based.  
See above dosing guide.**