

Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System Area Prescribing Committee (APC)

Integrated Care Partnerships (ICPs) (Surrey Downs, Guildford & Waverley, North West Surrey, East Surrey & associated partner organisations).

Quantity of Adrenaline Auto Injectors to supply

(updated advice after European review August 2017)

The APC supports the prescribing of Jext®, EpiPen® or Emerade® as treatment options for patients requiring an adrenaline auto injector. They are considered as **GREEN** on the traffic light system.

When prescribing adrenaline auto-injectors, you should ensure that the patient or carer thoroughly understands the indications and use of the device. All patients/carers should receive training to ensure they know how to use their device (this could be done by doctors, pharmacists, nurses or specialist health visitors).

Encourage people with allergies and their carers to obtain and practice using a trainer device (available for free from the manufacturers' websites). Trainer pens should be labelled and stored carefully to ensure they are not used in error in an emergency situation.

Recommendations of Quantities to Prescribe

Adrenaline Auto Injectors (AAI) devices should ONLY be prescribed for a person with a history or an acknowledged risk of an anaphylactic reaction.

Advise patients to carry their AAI devices at all times for emergency, on the spot use.

Agree appropriate quantities considering individual situation in shared consultation. **The following are recommendations on quantities to be prescribed however this may vary depending on the individual.** (Where more than 2 pens are prescribed clearly document reasons on GP system)

ADULTS:

- Two Adrenaline Auto Injectors (AAI) devices**

(It is recommended that 2 adrenaline auto-injectors are prescribed in case of device failure or lack of sufficient response)

CHILDREN:

- Two AAI devices should be provided for home/ care setting**

AND with consideration of age and school storage arrangements

- Two AAI devices for storage at primary school OR**
- Two AAI devices for storage at secondary school if the school policy is to store medicines on behalf of pupils.**

Adrenaline pens should be always readily available in a school setting to children and not locked away.

To ensure patients receive the auto-injector device that they have been trained to use, prescribers should SPECIFY THE BRAND to be dispensed.

References:

<https://www.gov.uk/drug-safety-update/adrenaline-auto-injectors-updated-advice-after-european-review>

<http://bjgp.org/content/early/2017/03/13/bjgp17X689917>

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/638267/supporting-pupils-at-school-with-medical-conditions.pdf

<https://www.resus.org.uk/faqs/faqs-anaphylaxis-treatment>

[FAQs-in-schools-factsheet-2021-v8.pdf \(anaphylaxis.org.uk\)](https://www.resus.org.uk/faqs/faqs-anaphylaxis-treatment)

[Public Assessment Report of the Commission on Human Medicines' Adrenaline Auto-injector Expert Working Group: Recommendations to support the effective and safe use of adrenaline auto-injectors - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Adrenaline auto-injectors: reminder for prescribers to support safe and effective use - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)