

— Prescriber's Toolkit for Law Enforcement —

EMERGENCY EPINEPHRINE



Prescriber's Letter

September 5, 2017

Dear Healthcare Professional,

We are writing to ask for your help. On January 1, 2017, the Annie LeGere Law, P.A. 99-0711 (the Act) became effective in Illinois, permitting police officers to stock a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors, authorizing prescribers to provide the Illinois Department of State Police and local municipal police departments with a prescription to obtain the emergency epinephrine auto-injectors from local pharmacists, and giving trained officers the power to administer the epinephrine to any person whom the officer believes is having an anaphylactic reaction.

The primary impediment stopping police officers from administering life-saving emergency epinephrine to individuals is the inability of the departments to secure a standing order and prescription for the undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors from a licensed prescriber. For the health and safety of Illinois children, we strongly encourage you to fulfill any requests by a police department for a standing order and prescription for emergency undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors. Everything you need is in this packet.

The Illinois Legislature passed this Act in an effort to save the lives of children and adults who suffer from anaphylaxis – a severe allergic reaction that can result in death. The legislature expanded the use of epinephrine auto-injectors, from school nurses to police officers because it recognized the reality that individuals, but especially children, may require emergency assistance and police officers are often first on the scene.

As you know, the leading cause of anaphylaxis in children is food allergies. According to a recent study in Pediatrics, one in 13 children suffers from some type of food allergy, and the number is on the rise. For nearly 40% of those children, the allergies are severe and can even be life-threatening.

We have developed and compiled the enclosed information and forms to assist you in responding to requests from police departments. The information included contains an explanation of the Annie LeGere Law, a sample standing order and prescription form and additional resources that may be provided to departments as you deem appropriate.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

The EpiPen Taskforce

Annie LeGere Act

Public Act 99-0711

History

In 2011, Physicians were authorized by the Emergency Epinephrine Act to prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors in the name of the school district or nonpublic school. In 2012, the Illinois Attorney General's Office and Illinois Department of Public Health co-authored a letter to physicians that was part of a Physician's Toolkit to protect students from life threatening allergic reactions in school.

The death of Annie LeGere, prompted DuPage County Board Member Peter DiCianni to convene discussions that resulted in the Annie LeGere Law, introduced through the bi-partisan sponsorship of Senator Chris Nybo and Representative Michelle Mussman.

In 2016, the law passed unanimously in the House of Representatives and unanimously in the State Senate.

The Annie LeGere Law

The law amended the State Police Act and the Illinois Police Training Act creating provisions to train officers to recognize and respond to anaphylaxis, including the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector. It required that the Department of State Police or a local governmental agency may authorize officers to carry, administer, or assist in the administration of epinephrine auto-injectors if they have completed the required training and must provide for policies on the use of epinephrine auto-injectors. Limits liability for the use of epinephrine auto-injectors by police officers. IT specifically states that a licensed prescriber may providing a standing order or prescription for epinephrine auto injectors in the name of the police department to be used when necessary.

Note to Public Health Physicians

The Public Health Standing Orders Act, 410 ILCS 125/1 et seq., does not prevent or limit public health physicians from writing a prescription and standing order for a police department.

Specifically, the Public Health Standing Orders Act states:

"Nothing in this Act shall be construed to affect or in any way limit physician delegation, including the use of standing orders or protocols for any person or group of persons without prior establishment of a physician-patient relationship between the physician and the person receiving medical services."



Sample Standing Order for the Administration of Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

Name of Law Enforcement Agency

Street Address, City and Zip Code

STANDING ORDER DESCRIPTION

Physician authorized prescriptions may be provided to law enforcement officers to respond to life-threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) in individuals pursuant to Illinois Public Act 99-0711, Epinephrine Auto-Injector Act.¹

Any law enforcement officer who has successfully completed a training recognized by the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB) and meeting the requirements of Illinois Public Act 99-0711 may administer epinephrine via an undesignated epinephrine auto-injector to an individual who in the officer's professional judgment is experiencing a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

ASSESSMENT

The possibility of an allergic anaphylactic reaction will be considered when individuals present with any of the following symptoms, or any combination thereof: sudden onset of shortness of breath, wheezing, repetitive cough, difficulty swallowing, obstructive swelling of the tongue or throat, hoarse voice, confusion, pallor, cyanosis, syncope, skin signs or symptoms such as diffuse or patchy itching and/or wheals, or intestinal symptoms such as cramping abdominal pain and/or vomiting, or any combination of possible allergic symptoms arising from other parts of the body, in the absence of another probable alternative cause.

IMPLEMENTATION AND PHYSICIAN ORDER

The law enforcement officer will assess the individual's symptoms and history. If, in the reasonable opinion of the law enforcement officer, a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction is likely, the officer will obtain the undesignated epinephrine auto-injector.

The officer will ask or estimate the individual's body weight and administer 0.15mg epinephrine via auto-injector for body weight less than 55 lbs (25kg) or 0.3mg epinephrine via auto-injector for body weight greater than 55 lbs (25kg).² The epinephrine auto-injector will be injected intramuscularly in the lateral thigh; the time of injection will be noted and the anatomical site of the injection shall be marked with a permanent marker to alert emergency services personnel of its location.

In every case, emergency medical services will be contacted as soon as possible using available 911 or other municipal service. The officer will monitor the individual for changes in his or her symptoms and will attempt to make the person as comfortable as possible.

If the individual's symptoms are not substantially relieved in 3-5 minutes, or if they recur, the officer may administer a second dose of epinephrine. The officer will advise the emergency medical services personnel of the symptoms that required the use of epinephrine, the dose of epinephrine, the anatomical site of the injection, the time administered, and any change in the symptoms or condition of the individual. The used epinephrine auto-injector will be given to the emergency medical services personnel.

Sample Standing Order for the Administration of Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

QUALITY ASSURANCE

The officer will complete a written report detailing the name of the individual, all of his/her observations, physical assessments, interventions (together with the results of such interventions), the number and dosage of epinephrine administrations, the anatomical injection sites, and times for each. The completed written report shall be signed by the officer and submitted to the physician signing this order and the individual's primary care physician, if known, within 72 hours.

EXPIRATION AND DISPOSAL OF UNUSED AUTO-INJECTORS

The officer shall check the expiration date located on the undesignated epinephrine auto-injectors monthly and obtain a new prescription for a replacement auto-injector prior to that expiration date. The officer shall dispose of an expired, unused epinephrine auto-injector in a manner consistent with current office medication policies or return to the issuing pharmacy for disposal. An inventory log shall be kept by the officer indicating the date of receipt of an undesignated epinephrine auto-injector and the date of administration or disposal of the auto-injector.

Effective Date

Renewal Date

Prescriber Signature

Prescriber Name (printed)

Prescriber Contact Number

Prescriber License Number

For persons adopting these protocols: The standing order is provided as a sample. The order must be reviewed and further delineated according to the licensed prescriber's parameters. Additional criteria and prescribed actions may be necessary. The prescribed actions are examples and may not suit your institution's clinical situation and do not include all possible actions. A licensed prescriber must review the criteria and actions and determine the appropriate action to be prescribed.

References

1. Illinois Department of Public Health. Public Act 099-0711 - Epinephrine Auto-Injector Act. Available at www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?name=099-0711 Accessed on 1/27/17.

2. Sicherer S.H., Simons F.E., (2007). Self-injectable epinephrine for first-aid management of anaphylaxis. *Pediatrics*, 119(3):638-46. Erratum in: *Pediatrics*, 2007, 119(6):1271. Available at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=17332221> Accessed on 1/30/2017.

3. Illinois Department of Public Health. Epinephrine Auto-Injector and Anaphylaxis. Available at www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/prevention-wellness/epinephrine-autoInjector-and-anaphylaxis Accessed on 1/27/17.

Prescription

Public Act 99-0711

Prescription for Undesignated Epinephrine Auto-Injectors for Police Department Use Pursuant to Public Act 99-0711

Prescriber

Name

Address

City, State and Zip

DEA Number

Issued To:

Name of Local Government Agency

Street Address

City, State and Zip

of

0.15mg Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

of

0.3mg Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

Instructions

To be administered, as needed, to individuals exhibiting symptoms of anaphylaxis in accordance with the Standing Order for the administration of Epinephrine auto-injectors for potentially life threatening allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) in individuals pursuant to public act 99-0711.

Date Issued

Prescriber's Signature

Training

Auto-Injector Epinephrine and Anaphylaxis Training

Public Act 099-0711 allows an authorized entity to identify employees or agents or other individuals who have completed training (subsection d of the Act) to provide or administer an epinephrine auto-injector. Employees, agents or other authorized individuals must complete an anaphylaxis training program before they are able to provide or administer an epinephrine auto-injector under the provisions of the Act. Training shall be valid for a period of two years and shall meet the following requirements:

- Is conducted by a nationally recognized organization experienced in training laypersons in emergency health treatment;
- Is conducted either online or in person;
- Includes, but is not limited to:
 - How to recognize signs and symptoms of an allergic reaction, including anaphylaxis;
 - Standard procedures for storage and administration of epinephrine auto-injector;
 - Steps to take to prevent exposure to allergens;
 - Emergency follow-up procedures; and
 - A test demonstrating competency of knowledge required to recognize anaphylaxis and administer an epinephrine auto-injector.

Authorized entities may include a review and understanding of high-risk areas on the authorized entity's property and its facilities as part of the training curriculum.

If there is a training program which meets the criteria listed and it is not included here, please email information about the program to epipen@illinois.gov.

The following training programs meet the requirements of Public Act 099-0711:

- American Red Cross: Anaphylaxis and Epinephrine Auto-Injector - Online Course
- American Heart Association: Heartsaver® Pediatric First AID CPR AED
- American Heart Association's Heartsaver First Aid/CPR/AED course

The training organization will provide a certificate of completion to each participant. There is no required form for the training certificate, but each certificate should contain at least the following information:

1. Name of the trainer or training organization.
2. Date training completed.
3. The topics covered in the training.