



### ADRENALINE AUTO-INJECTORS CHANGE

#### Change of Formulary Auto-Injectors

In Tayside, EpiPen® has been the first choice adrenaline auto-injector, with Jext® an alternative. There is now an adrenaline auto-injector which is a similar price that provides a 500microgram dose of adrenaline. As per the Emerade® manufacturer's Summary of Product Characteristics (SPC), the 500microgram dose may be used for adults or adolescents over 60kg body-weight, depending on clinical judgement. The 500microgram Emerade® auto-injector is **not recommended for use in children**. Emerade® is also available as 300microgram and 150microgram doses. EpiPen® and Jext® continue to be available in the 300microgram and 150microgram doses.

Please refer to the relevant SPCs for full dosage information for Emerade®, EpiPen®, and Jext®.

**Emerade® will now be added to the Tayside Area Formulary to provide an option to deliver a 500microgram dose for anaphylaxis.**

Costs of currently available auto-injectors for adults (MIMS March 2017): Emerade® 300microgram £25.99; Emerade® 500microgram £26.99; EpiPen® 300microgram £26.45; Jext® 300microgram £23.99.

#### Implementation

Given it is critical that the auto-injector can be confidently administered, a 'mass switch' for those already prescribed another brand of adrenaline auto-injector is not recommended.

Emerade® 500microgram dose may be prescribed for adults or adolescents over 60kg (depending on clinical judgement), on a case by case basis after training has been undertaken.

A training video for injection technique can be accessed here: <http://www.emerade-bausch.co.uk/patient/>

Training pens can be obtained from here if desired: <http://www.emerade-bausch.co.uk/hcp/patient-resources>

Allergy plan doses should be regularly revised as children get older; these can be obtained on the intranet: <http://staffnet.tayside.scot.nhs.uk/OurWebsites/PaediatricMedicalSurgicalServices/ClinicalGuidelinesandProtocols/FoodAllergyGuidelines/index.htm>

#### Background to this change

In 2008, the Resuscitation Council (UK) advised that the recommended dose of adrenaline for anaphylaxis to be administered intramuscularly by healthcare professionals in adults or a child more than 12 years of age is 500micrograms intramuscularly (300micrograms if the child is small or prepubertal).

Before the introduction of Emerade®, only the 300microgram dose of adrenaline was available for self-administration for adults and adolescents. Emerade® 500microgram dose provides an option that may be suitable for some patients.

**Auto-injectors must be prescribed by brand name. Patients and carers must receive training tailored to the specific auto-injector prescribed.**

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#### Do you wish to write a Tayside Prescriber?

#### Do you already have a suitable topic for a Tayside Prescriber?

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