	M05.3 - EPINEPHRINE FOR REFRACTORY ASTHMA (1 mg/ml)	
	MEDICATION STANDING ORDER	
Version date: 2023-12-14	Effective date: 2024-01-16 (0700)	

INDICATIONS

- Known or suspected asthma with impending respiratory arrest and the patient does not respond to, cannot tolerate, or cannot cooperate with inhaled bronchodilators.



CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Undifferentiated respiratory failure
- Wheezing due to heart failure
- Chest pain suspicious for myocardial ischemia

ROUTE (WORK SCOPE)	INITIAL DOSE	REPEAT DOSE
INTRAMUSCULAR / AUTOINJECTOR (PCP & ABOVE)	6 years & older - 0.3 mg	Once in 20 minutes if required
	12 months up to 6 years - 0.15 mg ²	

NOTES

1. If a pediatric-dose autoinjector is not available, use the adult device.
2. Administer into the lateral thigh muscle (vastus lateralis). It has greater blood flow than the shoulder muscle (deltoid), resulting in faster absorption and higher drug levels.
3. Use of epinephrine in asthma is an off-label indication with minimal supporting data, but can be life-saving with impending respiratory arrest. Paramedics may contact the Virtual Emergency Care & Transport Resource Service (VECTRS) for on-line medical support (OLMS) at any time.

APPROVED BY	
	
Medical Director - Provincial EMS/PT	Associate Medical Director - Provincial EMS/PT

VERSION CHANGES (refer to X08 for change tracking)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High-alert warning removed