

P250 LFD PROCEDURE PROTOCOL: SELF-ASSISTED MEDICATIONS

EMT	AEMT	EMT-I	Paramedic
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Purpose

It is the purpose of this protocol to provide direction for the EMT-Basic for assisting patients in the proper administration of the patient's own inhaler, nitroglycerin, and epinephrine pen/IM injection.

Indications (Inhaler)

1. Patient has prescribed albuterol, isoetharine, metaproterenol, ipratropium metered-dose inhaler AND
2. Patient presents with signs and symptoms of a respiratory emergency AND
3. Administration is authorized by medical control.

Contraindications (Inhaler)

1. Patient not alert
2. Dosage authorized by medical control already taken
3. Inhaler does not belong to patient
4. Permission to administer not granted

Administration (Inhaler)

1. Administer oxygen
2. Assess patient (vital signs, respiratory)
3. Confirm name of patient
4. Confirm medication belongs to patient
5. Confirm number of doses already taken and effect
6. Confirm that medication has not expired
7. **Contact medical control. If authorized:**
8. Medication should be at room or warmer temperature
9. Shake inhaler well
10. Instruct patient to exhale deeply
11. Instruct patient to seal lips around inhaler
12. Depress inhaler as patient inspires
13. Instruct patient to hold breath as long as comfortable
14. Administer oxygen
15. Reassess patient (vital signs and respiratory)
16. Administer additional doses if indicated and authorized by medical control

Indications (Nitroglycerin)

1. Patient has chest pain AND
2. Patient has cardiac history AND
3. Patient has nitroglycerin prescribed by physician AND
4. Patient's blood pressure is greater than 100mm/Hg systolic AND
5. Medical control authorizes administration
6. Patient does not use Viagra /ED meds

Contraindications (Nitroglycerin)

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1. Patient's blood pressure is less than 100mg/Hg systolic
2. Patient has or may have a head injury
3. Patient is a child or infant
4. Patient has already taken the prescribed dosage
5. Taking Viagra /ED meds

Administration (Nitroglycerin)

1. Administer oxygen
2. Complete cardiac assessment
3. Confirm patient's name, that medication belongs to patient, that medication has not expired, that the prescribed dosage has not been already administered
4. Find out when the last dosage was taken and what the effects of that dose were
5. Confirm that the patient is alert
6. **Contact medical control. If authorized:**
7. Have patient lift his or her tongue
8. Place one tablet or one spray under patient's tongue
9. Reassess patient's blood pressure and other cardiac signs
10. Chart time of administration, effects, and monitor patient

Indications (Epi-Pen Autoinjector and Intramuscular EPI Injection)

1. Signs and/or symptoms of respiratory distress or shock secondary to allergic reaction, AND
2. Medication prescribed for the patient, AND
3. Authorization by medical control.

Contraindications (Epi-Pen Autoinjector and Intramuscular EPI Injection)

There are no contraindications to authorized administration of epinephrine in life threatening anaphylactic emergencies

Administration (Epi-Pen Autoinjector)

1. Administer oxygen
2. Assess the patient for respiratory or cardiovascular complications associated with anaphylaxis
3. Confirm the name of the patient, that the medication is prescribed for the patient
4. **Contact medical control. If authorized:**
5. Remove the cap from the device or follow EPI Medication Protocol if drawing up EPI 1:1,000 for IM administration.
6. Place the device against the patient's thigh and hold firmly in place for 10 seconds after the device activates
7. Record the dosage, time given, and effects
8. Dispose of the device in a biohazard container
9. Reassess patient and treat for immediate or impending shock
10. Be prepared to start CPR or AED if condition deteriorates
11. Transport patient immediately as condition may recur