

Paediatrics

Intramuscular Injections of Adrenaline for Your Baby

Instructions specific to:

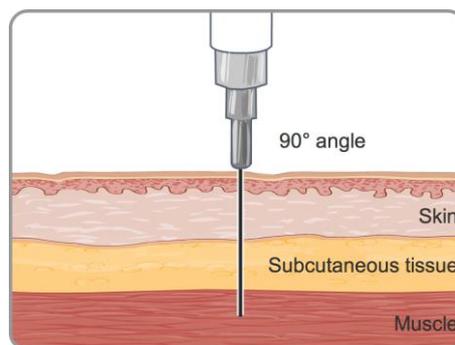
Name

Hospital number

Carer trained by (name and sign)

Consultant (name and sign)

An intramuscular injection (IM) is whereby a medicine is injected into the muscle. Where the injection is given (the site) and the size of needle used will depend on the age and size of your baby.



Emergency drug administration

Adrenaline is a hormone which is naturally produced by the body. It is needed to reverse the effects of an allergic reaction called anaphylaxis.



Patient Information

It is given intramuscularly at times when your baby is having a severe allergic reaction, such as becoming pale and floppy with possible breathing difficulties and severe vomiting. The IM adrenaline is an emergency measure.

After the adrenaline injection has been given, your baby will then need to be taken to the nearest hospital for further treatment.

In babies under one year of age, the injection will be given in the thigh muscle in the position highlighted by the picture.

The thigh is divided into 3 parts lengthways the injections should be in the middle section on the front outer side of the thigh, as shown by the shaded area.



The dose of Adrenaline will be 0.01ml per kg of weight.

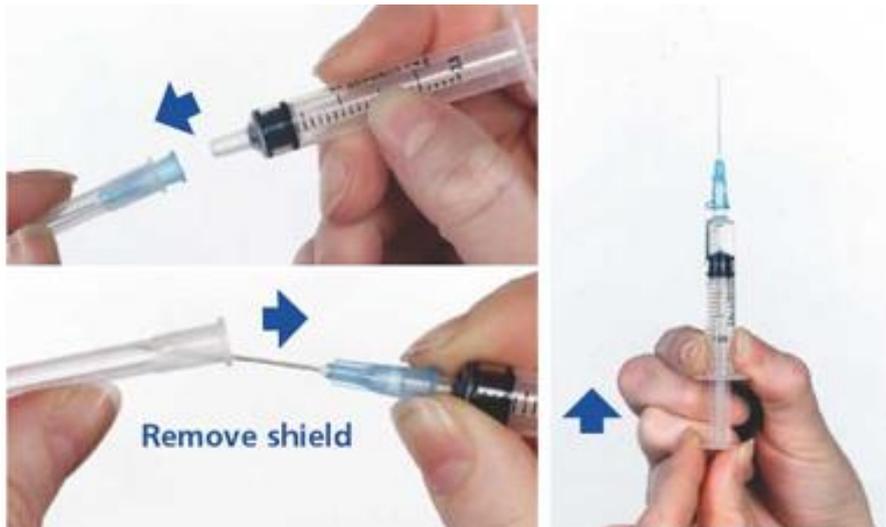
Drawing up the injection

You will need:

- A 1ml syringe;
- Large filter needle;
- Smaller blue needle (this will change as your baby gets older and bigger);
- Ampoule of adrenaline (Epinephrine) injection (1 in 1000) 1mg in 1ml - check this is within its expiry date;
- Gauze swab;
- Sharps box.

Patient Information

1. Tap the top of the ampoule of drug so that the fluid falls into the base.
2. Break the ampoule by holding your thumb over the blue spot and snap it off - you may use a tissue around the top of the ampoule to prevent cutting yourself if the break is not clean.



3. Attach the filter needle to the syringe, remove the shield and draw up the medicine from the open ampoule.
4. Change to the blue needle and leaving the shield in place, hold the syringe upright as shown and push air out of the syringe by pushing upwards on the plunger.
5. Push excess fluid out of the syringe until you haveleft.

Patient Information

Administering the injection



1. Position baby securely
 - If there is only one person present, wrap baby securely in a blanket just leaving the limb free and position on their side with that limb uppermost
 - If there are two people present one person should hold the baby securely and the other exposes the baby's thigh and delivers the medication as below.

2. Stretch the skin of the thigh in the area shown by the picture below with your finger and thumb



3. Hold the syringe like a dart or pen with the other hand and with a confident motion pierce the skin at a 90 degree angle
4. Inject the drug ensuring you keep the skin stretched until it is completed and the needle can then be withdrawn and syringe and needle disposed of in a sharps container.

5. Press on the injection site with the gauze swab until any bleeding stops. Call 999 as instructed and tell them your baby has suffered anaphylaxis.

Further Information

If you need further information please contact the allergy nurses, Louise Bashford or Sarah Pitts, via email on childrensallergy@uhcw.nhs.uk or call our secretary Sandra on 01788 663189 who will pass a message onto the allergy nurses.

Patient Information

The Trust has access to interpreting and translation services. If you need this information in another language or format please contact us on 01788 663 189 and we will do our best to meet your needs.

The Trust operates a smoke free policy

To give feedback on this leaflet please email feedback@uhcw.nhs.uk

Document History

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Intramuscular injection of Adrenaline for Anaphylaxis
Competency for Carers

THIS COMPETENCY EXPIRES ON _____

This competency certifies the following person(s) only _____

E - Initial Training P - Practical Training I(a) – Competent to practice I(b) – Competent and experienced D – Competent to teach

CRITERIA TO BE MET	REQUIRED SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE	LEVEL REACHED				
		E	P	I(a)	I(b)	D
1) Carer to identify need for intramuscular Adrenaline for their baby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Breathing difficulty •Vomiting excessively •Becoming ill and drowsy •Sudden collapse 					
2) Carer to be competent carrying out intramuscular injections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Wash Hands •Prepare injection •Position baby correctly and securely •Identify injection site correctly •Holding syringe like a dart remove needle cover and insert needle at a 90 degree angle to the thigh bone into the skin •Safely delivers the dose of medicine •Disposes of sharps correctly •Place in recovery position •Call 999 					