






Adrenaline (Epinephrine) Injectors - Fast Facts

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1. Adrenaline can save lives when used to treat anaphylaxis

ASCIA recommends adrenaline as the first line, emergency treatment for anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions), using **either** of the two adrenaline injector brands listed below, which are:

- PBS listed in Australia (EpiPen® is Pharmac listed in New Zealand from 1 February 2023).
- Widely used in other countries.

Anapen® - Supplied by Arrotex	EpiPen® - Supplied by Viatrix
 <p>Anapen® Jr (150 microgram)</p>  <p>Anapen® 300 (300 microgram)</p>  <p>Anapen® 500 (500 microgram)</p>	 <p>EpiPen® Junior (150 microgram)</p>  <p>EpiPen® (300 microgram)</p>
<p>Doses recommended by ASCIA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anapen® Junior 150: Children 7.5-20 kg (~1-5 years) • Anapen® 300: Adults or children >20kg (>5 years) • Anapen® 500*: Adults or children >50kg (>12 years) 	<p>Doses recommended by ASCIA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EpiPen® Junior: Children 7.5-20 kg (~1-5 years) • EpiPen®: Adults or children >20kg (>5 years) • EpiPen®: Adults or children >50kg (>12 years)

Abbreviations: (>) means greater than and (~) means approximately

*The dose of adrenaline in Anapen® 500 is consistent with the intramuscular injection (IMI) adrenaline dose recommendations in [several publications](#) for people who weigh more than 50kg.

2. It is important to know how to use Anapen® and EpiPen® devices



Anapen® (4 steps) and EpiPen® (3 steps) are both injected into the outer mid-thigh, but have different instructions, which are on the device labels and the [ASCIA website](http://www.allergy.org.au). A general version of the [ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis](#) is available that include instructions for both devices.

Device specific plans include this QR code that links to instructions for both brands. Instructions for both devices are included in [ASCIA Anaphylaxis e-training courses](#).

3. There are many reasons why it is important to have two brands of adrenaline injectors

- To ensure continued supply of life saving adrenaline, particularly if one brand has stock shortages.
- To encourage suppliers to provide devices with longer shelf life.
- To provide a choice of dose, if prescribers prefer a higher dose (500 microgram device) for people >50kg, which may reduce the need for further adrenaline doses in older teens and adults >50kg.
- To provide choice for consumers to access devices with points of difference to best suit their needs.

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