

**Antelope Valley Union High School District
Facts about the Emergency Epinephrine Injection**

<p>Severe Allergic Reaction An immediate, severe allergy causing progressive collapse of vital body systems.</p>	
<p>What do I do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Do not move victim because increased circulation of venom or chemical may intensify symptoms ❑ Remain calm and reduce anxiety for all ❑ Immediately contact Switchboard to retrieve the epinephrine injector pen from the Health Office ❑ Give injection immediately and without delay because the body is already reacting even when there are few clear signs. ❑ Maintain an open airway and keep victim warm to maintain body's function during shock 	
<p>How do I give the injection? Get annual training from the school nurse, then remember to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the gray safety cap • Hold the injector pen at a 90-degree angle and inject into the outer thigh, even through the clothes • Hold the injector pen in place, count to 10 • Remove the injector pen and keep it safe and away from people • Massage the injection site for 10 seconds • Stay with the person until 9-1-1 comes and takes over 	
<p>What should I NOT do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should not wait to give the injection until there are symptoms. Do it now! • If it is a stinging insect, do not push, pinch, squeeze or further imbed the stinger into the skin because this causes more venom to be injected into the victim. • Do not move victim because increased circulation of venom or chemical may intensify symptoms 	
<p>What will they feel like afterwards?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epinephrine causes the heart to have a strong beat that causes a fast, pounding sensation • Breathing may be deeper • There will be an increase in blood pressure and better circulation although it is unlikely to be felt by the victim 	<p>How long does the epinephrine last?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 – 20 minutes so more medication will be needed shortly and 9-1-1 should always be called • Emergency monitoring should continue for at least 4 hours at home or at a medical facility

Revised 2008