County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department

Division: Emergency Medical Services Agency Effective Date: 01/17/2025

EPINEPHRINE 1:1,000 (Adrenalin®)

Classification: Sympathomimetic agent (catecholamine)

Actions:

1. Increases cardiac output due to increased inotropy, chronotropy, dromotropy, and AV conduction (*b*1 effect)

Epinephrine 1:1,000 (Adrenalin®)

- 2. Relaxes smooth muscles of the respiratory tract (*b*2 effect)
- 3. Increases systolic blood pressure due to increased cardiac output (*b*1effect) and vasoconstriction (*a* effect)
- 4. Increases coronary perfusion during CPR by increasing aortic diastolic pressure

Indications:

- 1. Cardiopulmonary arrest
- 2. Anaphylaxis
- 3. Respiratory distress with wheezing
- 4. Pediatric symptomatic bradycardia
- 5. Neonatal resuscitation
- 6. Suspected croup or epiglottitis

Contraindications:

- 1. Use with caution in pregnancy.
- 2. Consider base physician consultation if possible if the patient has history of MI, angina or hypertension.

Adverse Effects: Cardiovascular Neurological

TachycardiaAnxietyHypertensionDizzinessChest painHeadachePalpitationsTremors

Ventricular fibrillation Seizures

Gastrointestinal Nausea/vomiting

Administration:

ADULT DOSE

- 1. **Asthma:** 0.01 mg/kg IM, not to exceed 0.5 mg, may repeat every 5 minutes, not to exceed 3 doses
- 2. **Allergic reaction/anaphylaxis:** 0.01 mg/kg **IM**, not to exceed 0.5 mg, may repeat every 5 minutes, not to exceed 3 doses

EPINEPHRINE 1:1,000 (Adrenalin®) CONTINUED

PEDIATRIC DOSE

- 1. **Asthma:** 0.01 mg/kg, IM, not to exceed 0.3 mg, may repeat every 5 minutes, not to exceed 3 doses
- 2. **Allergic reaction/anaphylaxis:** 0.01 mg/kg, **IM**, not to exceed 0.3 mg, may repeat every 5 minutes, not to exceed 3 doses
- 3. **Bradycardia:** The first line drug in pediatric bradycardia is epinephrine 1:10,000

Notes:

- IM administration is with 1-1½" needle in anterior/lateral thigh or deltoid.
- Tachycardia is not a contraindication to Epinephrine.