INSTRUCTION FOR GIVING EPINEPHRINE WITH SYRINGE AND NEEDLE
FOR SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTIONS

Epinephrine is the prescribed drug to be used for the treatment of generalized (systemic) allergic reactions. This reaction may or may not include marked swelling at the injection site, plus a vague feeling of apprehension and itching of the palms followed by generalized hives, flushing, sneezing, nasal congestion, difficulty breathing, increased mucus production or clearing of the throat, coughing or wheezing. This reaction may also occur in patients with specific, extreme allergic sensitivities to certain foods, drugs, or insect stings. All symptoms need not be present to experience a systemic reaction.

If such a reaction develops, administer Epinephrine promptly and proceed to the nearest medical facility. If the symptoms persist, you may repeat the dose 2 to 3 times at 10 to 15 minute intervals, if necessary, while you are on your way to medical treatment.

INJECTION TECHNIQUE FOR USE WITH VIALS OF EPINEPHRINE

1. For a severe reaction, time is of the essence. Give Epinephrine with as little delay as possible — if necessary through clothing.

2. Use disposable lcc tuberculin syringe with 1/2 or 5/8 inch, 25, 26, or 27 gauge needle with a regular bevel.

3. The vial is opened by breaking the scored mark of the vial. FULL CONTENTS OF THE VIAL ARE NEVER GIVEN IN ONE DOSE.

4. Turn the vial at a slant and draw up slightly more Epinephrine than is prescribed.

5. If air bubbles are in the syringe, remove them by tapping the side of the syringe barrel. When the air bubbles go to the top of the syringe, push the plunger tip up to your exact dose.

GIVE _____________ cc of
1:1000 Aqueous Epinephrine

6. Clean the injection site with an alcohol swab. If you do not have alcohol proceed without it. The injection should be given intramuscularly in the upper third of the arm, the large shoulder muscle (deltoid), or in the middle third of the outer side of the thigh.

7. Pinch a two-inch fold of skin and muscle and with one quick motion inject the needle fully into the tissues. The correct injection is 90 degrees or straight in.

8. Release the pinched tissues. While holding the barrel with one hand, pull back slightly on the plunger. Look for blood in the barrel of the syringe. If there is blood, simply pull the needle out and try a new injection site.

9. If there is no blood, proceed with the injection by pushing the plunger down to inject the Epinephrine. When finished, pull the needle from the skin and gently hold an alcohol swab on the injection site.

10. Take Epinephrine and syringe with you to nearest medical facility.

ALWAYS NOTIFY YOUR OKLAHOMA ALLERGY AND ASTHMA CLINIC PHYSICIAN BEFORE FURTHER ALLERGY INJECTIONS ARE GIVEN.