

Training for the Treatment of Severe Allergic Reaction and Training of Emergency Glucagon Providers for Treatment of Hypoglycemia FACT SHEET

Oregon Revised Statute 433.800 through .830 authorizes certain people to administer lifesaving treatment (when a health care professional is not immediately available) to persons who are having a severe allergic reaction and to persons who are experiencing severe hypoglycemia, when other treatments have failed or cannot be initiated. In response to ORS 433.800 through .830, the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division has promulgated rules and developed two protocols for educational training: "Treatment of Severe Allergic Reaction: A Protocol for Training" and "Training Protocol: Emergency Glucagon Providers."

1. Who may be trained in the administration of glucagon for the treatment of hypoglycemia and epinephrine for the treatment of a severe allergic reaction?

Training may be provided to individuals 18 years of age or older who have, or reasonably expect to have, responsibility for or contact with at least one other person with a diagnosis that puts them at risk for hypoglycemia (usually a person with diabetes) or who may suffer from a severe allergic reaction (persons allergic to certain foods or insect stings.) People likely to be eligible for this training as a result of their occupational or volunteer status include camp counselors or other camp employees, daycare providers, and school employees. (OAR 333-055-0021)

2. Who can provide the training?

Individuals to be trained to administer glucagon shall be trained under the supervision of a physician licensed under ORS Chapter 677, or a nurse practitioner licensed under ORS chapter 678 to practice in this state. The training may be conducted by a registered nurse licensed under ORS Chapter 678 as delegated by a supervising professional. (OAR 333-055-0015(1))

Individuals to be trained in the administration of epinephrine include those individuals identified above, in addition to an EMT Paramedic. The Paramedic must be licensed by the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division and be delegated by an EMS Medical Director.

3. Where can training materials be obtained?

The Training Protocol for Emergency Glucagon Providers, as well as an instructor PowerPoint presentation, is available on the "Resources for Providers and People with Diabetes" page of the Oregon Diabetes Program website www.healthoregon.org/diabetes. The direct link to the training protocol is

http://public.health.oregon.gov/DiseasesConditions/ChronicDisease/Diabetes/Documents/Glucagon_Training_Protocol_Manual.pdf.

The Treatment of Severe Allergic Reaction: A Protocol for Training, as well as a PowerPoint presentation, is available at the following link:

<http://public.health.oregon.gov/ProviderPartnerResources/HealthcareProvidersFacilities/HealthcareHealthCareRegulationQualityImprovement/Pages/epi-protocol-training.aspx>.

4. Is an online training available?

An online training is not available for either protocol. In order to successfully complete the glucagon administration training, the trainee must provide a return demonstration of preparing and administering a glucagon injection, under the observation of the health care professional providing the training.

5. Where can you find someone to provide the training?

Training for school staff may be available through the local ESD or school district. In other settings, a consulting physician or other affiliated health care professional may be able to provide the training. You may try contacting the local county health department or local EMS agency for Treatment of Severe Allergic Response training.

6. How is it documented that an individual has completed training?

Persons who successfully complete training in the administration of glucagon under OAR 333-055-0000 through 333-055-0035 shall be given a statement of completion signed by the individual conducting the training. A statement of completion for emergency glucagon providers is included in the training protocol available at <http://healthoregon.org/diabetes>. Individuals trained to administer glucagon must be trained every three years in accordance with OAR 333-055-0015 in order to obtain a new statement of completion.

Persons who successfully complete the Treatment of Severe Allergic Reaction training in accordance with OAR 333-055-0000 through 333-055-0035 shall be given a statement of completion signed by the individual conducting the training. The statement may also be used to obtain a prescription for an emergency supply of epinephrine if signed by a physician or nurse practitioner with prescription writing authority. The qualified individual conducting the training may obtain Treatment of Allergic Response - Statements of Completion by contacting the Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division at (971) 673-1230.

7. How does an individual trained in the Treatment of Allergic Response obtain epinephrine?

An individual who has successfully completed educational training in the treatment of allergic response may receive an emergency supply of epinephrine from a local pharmacy if the individual has a statement of completion signed by a physician or nurse practitioner with prescription writing authority (see #6 above.) The individual presents the signed statement of completion to a pharmacist who will write a prescription in accordance with OAR 333-055-0030(2). The cost of the epinephrine must be borne by the trained individual unless other arrangements have been made. Problems obtaining an emergency supply of epinephrine when a properly signed statement of completion is presented to a pharmacist should be reported to the Oregon Board of Pharmacy at (971) 673-0001 or by e-mail at pharmacy.board@state.or.us.

8. How does the emergency glucagon provider obtain glucagon?

A person who has successfully completed educational training in the administration of glucagon may receive, from the parent or guardian of a student, doses of glucagon prescribed by a health care professional with appropriate prescriptive privileges licensed under ORS chapters 677 or 678, and the necessary paraphernalia for administration. (OAR 333-055-0030(3))

9. Under what circumstances may a trained person administer glucagon or epinephrine?

Glucagon: A person who holds a current statement of completion pursuant to OAR 333-055-0030 may administer, in an emergency situation involving an individual who is experiencing hypoglycemia and when a licensed health care professional is not immediately available, physician-prescribed glucagon to a person for whom glucagon is prescribed, when other treatment has failed or cannot be initiated. The decision to give glucagon should be based upon recognition of the signs of severe hypoglycemia and the inability to correct it with oral intake of food or drink. (OAR 333-055-0035(2))

Epinephrine: A person who holds a current statement of completion pursuant to OAR 333-055-0030 may administer, in an emergency situation when a licensed health care professional is not immediately available, epinephrine to any person suffering a severe allergic response to an insect sting or other allergen. The decision to give epinephrine should be based upon recognition of the signs of a systemic allergic reaction and need not be postponed for purposes of identifying the specific cause of the reaction.

10. How can concerns about liability be addressed?

ORS 433.830 describes the immunity of trained persons and institutions rendering emergency assistance in the treatment of hypoglycemia with a glucagon injection or the treatment of allergic response with administration of epinephrine. No cause of action shall arise against a person who has successfully completed an educational training program described in ORS 433.815 for any act or omission of the person when acting in good faith while rendering emergency treatment pursuant to the authority granted by ORS 433.800 to 433.830, except where such conduct can be described as wanton misconduct. Similarly, no cause of action shall arise against an institution, facility, agency or organization when acting in good faith to allow for the rendering of emergency treatment pursuant to the authority granted by ORS 433.800 to 433.830, except where such conduct can be described as wanton misconduct.

11. Where can program information about the training protocols be obtained?

Information about the glucagon training protocols is available on the “Resources for Providers and People with Diabetes” page of the Oregon Diabetes Program website www.healthoregon.org/diabetes. If there are additional questions, contact the Oregon Diabetes Program at 971-673-0984.

Information about the Treatment of Allergic Response: A Training Protocol may be obtained by contacting the EMS and Trauma Systems Program at (971) 673-0523 or at the following website:

<http://public.health.oregon.gov/ProviderPartnerResources/HealthcareProvidersFacilities/HealthcareHealthCareRegulationQualityImprovement/Pages/epi-protocol-training.aspx>.