

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN

—
H.P. 776 - L.D. 1125

An Act To Expand Public Access to Epinephrine Autoinjectors

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 423 is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 423

ACCESS TO EPINEPHRINE AUTOINJECTOR

§2150-F. Definitions

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

1. Administer. "Administer" means to apply an epinephrine autoinjector directly to a human body.

2. Authorized entity. "Authorized entity" means any entity, organization or place of employment, other than a school under Title 20-A, section 6305, in connection with or at which allergens capable of causing anaphylaxis may be present, including but not limited to recreation camps, colleges, universities, day care facilities, youth sports leagues, amusement parks, restaurants and sports arenas.

3. Epinephrine autoinjector. "Epinephrine autoinjector" means a single-use device used for the automatic injection of a premeasured dose of epinephrine into a human body.

4. Health care practitioner. "Health care practitioner" means an individual who is licensed, registered or otherwise authorized in the appropriate jurisdiction to prescribe and administer drugs in the course of professional practice.

§2150-G. Epinephrine autoinjectors; emergency administration

1. Prescribing to an authorized entity permitted. A health care practitioner may prescribe epinephrine autoinjectors in the name of an authorized entity for use in accordance with this section, and pharmacists and health care practitioners may dispense

epinephrine autoinjectors pursuant to a prescription issued in the name of an authorized entity. A prescription authorized pursuant to this section is valid for 2 years.

2. Authorized entities permitted to maintain supply. An authorized entity may acquire and stock a supply of epinephrine autoinjectors pursuant to a prescription issued under subsection 1. An epinephrine autoinjector must be stored in a location readily accessible in an emergency and in accordance with the instructions for use for the epinephrine autoinjector and any additional requirements that may be established by the department. An authorized entity shall designate employees or agents who have completed the training required under subsection 4 to be responsible for the storage, maintenance, control and general oversight of epinephrine autoinjectors acquired by the authorized entity.

3. Use of epinephrine autoinjectors. An employee or agent of an authorized entity who has completed the training required by subsection 4 may use epinephrine autoinjectors prescribed pursuant to subsection 1 to:

A. Provide an epinephrine autoinjector to a person the employee or agent believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis, or the parent, guardian or caregiver of such a person, for immediate administration, regardless of whether the person has a prescription for an epinephrine autoinjector or has previously been diagnosed with an allergy; and

B. Administer an epinephrine autoinjector to a person the employee or agent believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis, regardless of whether the person has a prescription for an epinephrine autoinjector or has previously been diagnosed with an allergy.

4. Training. An employee or agent of an authorized entity shall complete an anaphylaxis training program and shall complete additional training at least every 2 years thereafter. The training must be conducted by a nationally recognized organization experienced in training nonprofessionals in emergency health treatment or an entity or individual approved by the department. The department may approve specific entities or individuals or may approve classes of entities or individuals to conduct training. Training may be conducted online or in person and, at a minimum, must cover:

A. How to recognize signs and symptoms of severe allergic reactions, including anaphylaxis;

B. Standards and procedures for the storage and administration of an epinephrine autoinjector; and

C. Emergency follow-up procedures.

The entity or individual that conducts the training shall issue a certificate, on a form developed or approved by the department, to each person who successfully completes the anaphylaxis training program.

5. Immunity. The following entities are not liable for any injuries or related damages that result from any act or omission of the entity committed in good faith pursuant to this section unless it is established that the injuries or related damages were caused willfully, wantonly or recklessly or by gross negligence:

A. A health care practitioner that prescribes epinephrine autoinjectors in accordance with subsection 1;

B. A pharmacist or health care practitioner that dispenses epinephrine autoinjectors in accordance with subsection 1;

C. An authorized entity that acquires and stocks epinephrine autoinjectors or designates employees or agents to be responsible for storage, maintenance, control and general oversight of epinephrine autoinjectors in accordance with subsection 2;

D. An employee or agent of an authorized entity who has completed the training required by subsection 4 who provides an epinephrine autoinjector to a person pursuant to subsection 3, paragraph A or who administers an epinephrine autoinjector to a person in accordance with subsection 3, paragraph B; and

E. An individual or entity that conducts training in accordance with subsection 4.

The administration of an epinephrine autoinjector in accordance with this section is not the practice of medicine or any other profession that otherwise requires licensure.

This subsection does not eliminate, limit or reduce any other immunity or defense that may be available under the laws of this State, including that provided under Title 14, section 164.

An authorized entity located in this State is not liable for any injuries or related damages that result from the provision or administration of an epinephrine autoinjector outside of this State if the authorized entity would not have been liable for such injuries or related damages had the provision or administration occurred within this State.