

## Patient information about purchasing an Adrenaline Auto-injector

EpiPen® is the only brand of adrenaline auto-injector available in NZ.

- EpiPen® adrenaline auto-injectors are not funded in New Zealand.
- Children with Anaphylaxis can get one free EpiPen® through the FundaPen programme from your GP/family doctor.
- The price of an EpiPen® is different at each pharmacy. Check the price with your local pharmacy. It is a good idea to shop around to find the best price.
- Some pharmacies you could try are:
  - Allergy Pharmacy [www.allergypharmacy.co.nz](http://www.allergypharmacy.co.nz)
  - Zoom Pharmacy <https://zoompharmacy.co.nz>
  - Pharmacy at Quay Park  
<https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/pharmacy/pharmacy/pharmacy-at-quay-park/>
  - The Chemist Warehouse <https://www.chemistwarehouse.co.nz/>

The cost of an EpiPen® starts from about \$120. Some pharmacies may add other costs too. Check the expiry dates before buying. Please keep the receipt when you buy your EpiPen® as this is needed if you need to make an ACC claim.

If you need to use your EpiPen® to treat an allergic reaction make sure an ACC form is filled out at the hospital, medical centre or in the ambulance. ACC will cover the cost of a new pen.

When your EpiPen® has expired it is a good idea to practice with it by injecting it into an old pillow, cushion or mattress. Once used, please give the EpiPen® to your GP or pharmacy to safely throw away.

Free online learning is available at <http://allergy.org.au>. You can learn about how to recognise Anaphylaxis and how to manage it. There is a short video showing how to use an EpiPen®. You can practice using an EpiPen® trainer pen. Trainer pens do not have a needle in them.

Make sure you, your child and other caregivers (plus older children and young people) regularly review their action plan and how to use their EpiPen®.

EpiPen® Doses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EpiPen® (0.3mg) for adults and children over 20kg</li> <li>• EpiPen®Jr (0.15mg) for children 7.5*-20kg</li> </ul> <p>Once your child is over 20kg ASCIA suggest changing from a junior pen to an adult pen when you buy a new pen, even though the package insert says to change once your child is over 30kg.</p> <p>ASCIA advise that an EpiPen®Jr (0.15mg) device can be used for an infant weighing 7.5-10kg if their health professional has made a considered risk assessment. Use of a 0.15mg device for treatment of infants weighing 7.5kg or more poses less risk, particularly when used without medical training, than use of an adrenaline ampoule and syringe.</p> <p><a href="https://allergy.org.au/hp/anaphylaxis/adrenaline-autoinjectors-faqs">https://allergy.org.au/hp/anaphylaxis/adrenaline-autoinjectors-faqs</a></p>
Expiry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The expiry date is up to 20 months from the date the EpiPen® is made.</li> <li>• Expiry dates are different at different pharmacies – check these before you buy a pen to make sure the expiry date is as long as possible.</li> </ul>
Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are different at each pharmacy</li> <li>• The cheapest EpiPen® price we know of is \$120</li> </ul>
Club	<p>You can go to this website <a href="http://www.epiclub.co.nz/">http://www.epiclub.co.nz/</a> and register your EpiPen®.</p> <p>You can get free trainer pens and reminders about expiry dates once you have registered the pen.</p>
<p>Other useful web sites that provide information and videos on Anaphylaxis Management and EpiPen® use:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Australasian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy (ASCIA)  <a href="http://www.allergy.org.au/">http://www.allergy.org.au/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Allergy New Zealand  <a href="http://www.allergy.org.nz">www.allergy.org.nz</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">250K (For adolescents/young adults with allergies)  <a href="https://250k.org.au/">https://250k.org.au/</a></p>	