Epinephrine - Auto Injector

MEDICATION

THE DRUG

Class: Sympathomimetic

Beta-1 effects: increased heart rate and contractility

Beta-2 effect: bronchodilation

USE IT FOR

- Anaphylactic shock

DON'T GIVE / CAUTION

- Contraindications (per page): conscious patients with underlying cardiovascular disease
- Hypertension (per page)
- Pregnancy (per page)
- Patients with tachyarrhythmias (per page)
- Precautions: protect from light; deactivated by alkaline solutions

DOSE

Adult: **Anaphylaxis: 1 EpiPen**

Peds: **1 EpiPen Jr (pediatric, age 8 and under per page)**

Repeat: **[dose not stated in original text]**

WATCH FOR

- Tremors
- Headache
- Palpitations / tachycardia
- Anxiety

PEARLS

- Push the device firmly against the outer thigh until you hear a 'click'
- Hold firmly for 3 seconds
- Massage the injection area for 10 seconds to help the medicine absorb

Take Home Message:

For anaphylaxis: one EpiPen in the outer thigh — push to the click, hold 3 seconds, massage 10 seconds.