



MEMO TO TRAINERS:

OHA Interim Guidance for Training Protocol for Emergency Glucagon Providers

The purpose of this memo is to address considerations related to new glucagon delivery systems, pending updates to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Training Protocol for Emergency Glucagon Providers; and to address special considerations for the Registered Nurse practicing in the school setting.

BACKGROUND

The Public Health Division of OHA is responsible for developing training protocols for [lifesaving treatments](#) including [diabetic emergency](#) as outlined in Oregon law ([ORS 433.800-830](#) and [OAR 333, division 055](#)). The purpose of these training protocols is to provide a means to allow lay persons to administer lifesaving treatment when licensed healthcare professional is not available.

Lifesaving Treatment Protocols overseen by OHA include trainings for

- adrenal crisis and administration of medications for adrenal crisis;
- allergic reaction and administration of epinephrine; and
- diabetic emergency and administration of glucagon.

Each of the listed OHA Lifesaving Treatment Protocols include training for administration of medication via intramuscular (IM) injection.

Teaching IM injection to unlicensed persons is a special consideration for RNs. Oregon's Nurse Practice Act identifies the RN's scope of practice authority related to the teaching of unlicensed persons ([OAR 851](#), division 45 and 47). Division 47 states that "the Registered Nurse may teach tasks to unlicensed persons which prepare the persons to deal with an anticipated emergency" contingent on conditions. One of those conditions is a requirement for teaching "the administration of injectable medications by the intramuscular route as provided in ORS 433.800–433.830."

This memo identifies required actions related to teaching glucagon administration such that the trainer may remain in compliance with OHA-approved protocols as provided in ORS 433.800-433.830.

1. GLUCAGON PROTOCOL CONSIDERATIONS

The OHA Training Protocol for Emergency Glucagon Providers (OHA Training Protocol) gives instruction for the administration of glucagon via IM injection using a system with separate vial and syringe, requiring the mixing of medication prior to delivery. Since last updates to the OHA Training Protocol, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved additional injectable glucagon delivery systems including a pre-filled syringe and an auto-injector, as well as an intranasal route glucagon delivery system.

Pending comprehensive updates to the OHA Training Protocol, trainers should note the following interim guidelines.



Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR chapter 333, division 055, section 0015) requires that trainers follow the OHA Training Protocol “or an Authority approved equivalent.”

For a training to be considered an “approved equivalent” Emergency Glucagon Provider training, OHA *requires* that trainers:

1. Utilize the current OHA Training Protocol for Emergency Glucagon Providers. Existing content should not be altered. Clarifications may be added specific to the situation.
2. For injectable glucagon delivery systems that differ from current protocol, a qualified licensed trainer may add an addendum. If adding an addendum the trainer must:
 - a. review manufacturer instructions for the injectable glucagon delivery system as source material.
 - b. to the extent possible, utilize manufacture instructions for training, including available visuals and videos, with clarifications specific to the situation.
3. For nasal-route glucagon or other non-injectable medication delivery systems, OHA defers to the licensed trainer to provide instruction in accordance with their health licensing Board scope of practice.
 - a. For example, if trainee scope of practice includes providing health education within the licensee’s areas of competence, trainee should be prepared to demonstrate competence in use of the delivery system prior to training others.
4. Require a simulated return-demonstration of the injection or delivery technique to verify trainee competence.

2. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE SCHOOL SETTING

OHA recommends that trainers be familiar with laws specific to medication administration in schools ([OAR 581-021-0037](#)). School staff must complete approved [Medication Administration](#) training prior to administering medication to students. OHA has partnered with ODE to provide a general Medication Administration training, and a shortened version of the Medication Administration training that is approved to use with staff who complete the OHA Training Protocol for Emergency Glucagon Providers or OHA Training Protocol for Severe Allergic Reaction.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, trainers should review [Ready Schools Safe Learners Resiliency Framework](#) and local school Operational Plans for health and safety guidance applicable to school training sites.
