



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer to:

1112 (OR-950) P

June 29, 2007

EMS TRANSMISSION 07/09/2007

Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2007-069

Expires: 9/30/2008

To: DMs, DSDs, Staff and Branch Chiefs

From: State Director, Oregon/Washington

Subject: Prevention and Treatment of Severe Allergic Reactions

Program Area: Safety and Occupational Health

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) transmits the [Policy and Program Guidance for the Prevention and Treatment of Severe Allergic Reactions IM No. OR-2005-069](#) published on May 18, 2005, in appropriate format as an Oregon/Washington (OR/WA) supplement to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Safety and Health Management Handbook 1112-1, Chapter 16.

Policy/Action: The safety program will provide employee training and necessary medical supplies to enable crew members to respond appropriately to an individual experiencing a severe allergic reaction following an insect sting. Adrenaline (*epinephrine*) is the drug most commonly used to treat anaphylactic reactions and may be self-administered with an auto injector or a pre-measured syringe.

Authorities for providing this training are found in [5 United States Code \(USC\) Section 7901-Employee Health Programs; Oregon Revised Statutes 433.800 through 830](#) (as amended in 1989 and 1997); and in [Oregon Administrative Rules 333-055-0000 to 0035](#). Under these authorities, and with the approval of an advising physician, the Safety Office may provide epinephrine training and medical supply kits to employees whose job assignment(s) may expose them to hazards which may result in a life threatening event such as anaphylactic shock due to stinging insects.

This program and authorization for administration of the pre-measured epinephrine solution by employees is *strictly limited* (by current state law) to the geographic boundaries of the State of Oregon.

Timeframe: This OR/WA Handbook Supplement is effective immediately and continuous from the original publication date of the policy.

Budget Impact: No costs in addition to those normally associated with on-going program implementation and maintenance are expected to result from publication of this supplement. Costs for yearly training and medical supplies generally range from \$75 – \$100 per employee, dependent upon the number of employees trained.

Background: The policy was originally published in May 2005 as a State Office policy. ([IM-2005-069 Policy and Program Guidance for the Prevention and Treatment of Severe Allergic Reactions](#)) This document reformats this existing program as an OR/WA supplement to the BLM Safety & Health Management Handbook 1112-1. This publication avoids the need to extend the existing IM or to publish a new directive with an expiration date.

On-the job exposure to stinging insects is a recognized job hazard for all BLM employees, especially those engaged in field assignments. In 2002, an employee fatality occurred due to the onset of anaphylactic shock resulting from a bee sting. The risk from insect stings is increased as employees conduct work activities in remote locations and a variety of climates. While employees can wear appropriate attire and take certain actions to avoid high risk areas, they may still unexpectedly encounter stinging insects during the work day. This program enables trained employees to assist others should an emergency medical situation (severe allergic reaction) occur following an insect sting.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: Published as an OR/WA supplement to the BLM Manual Handbook 1112-1 Safety and Health Management

Coordination: Safety and Occupational Health

Contact: Contact the State Safety Office at (503) 808-6202.

Signed by
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Acting, Associate State Director

Authenticated by
Mary O'Leary
Records Section

2 Attachment(s)

- 1 - [Prevention and Treatment of Severe Allergic Reactions](#) (12 pp)
- 2 - [Treatment of Severe Allergic Reaction – A Protocol for Training \(Oregon Department of Human Services\)](#) 25 pp

Distribution

WO-740 (Sandy Guches, MIB 2044)