

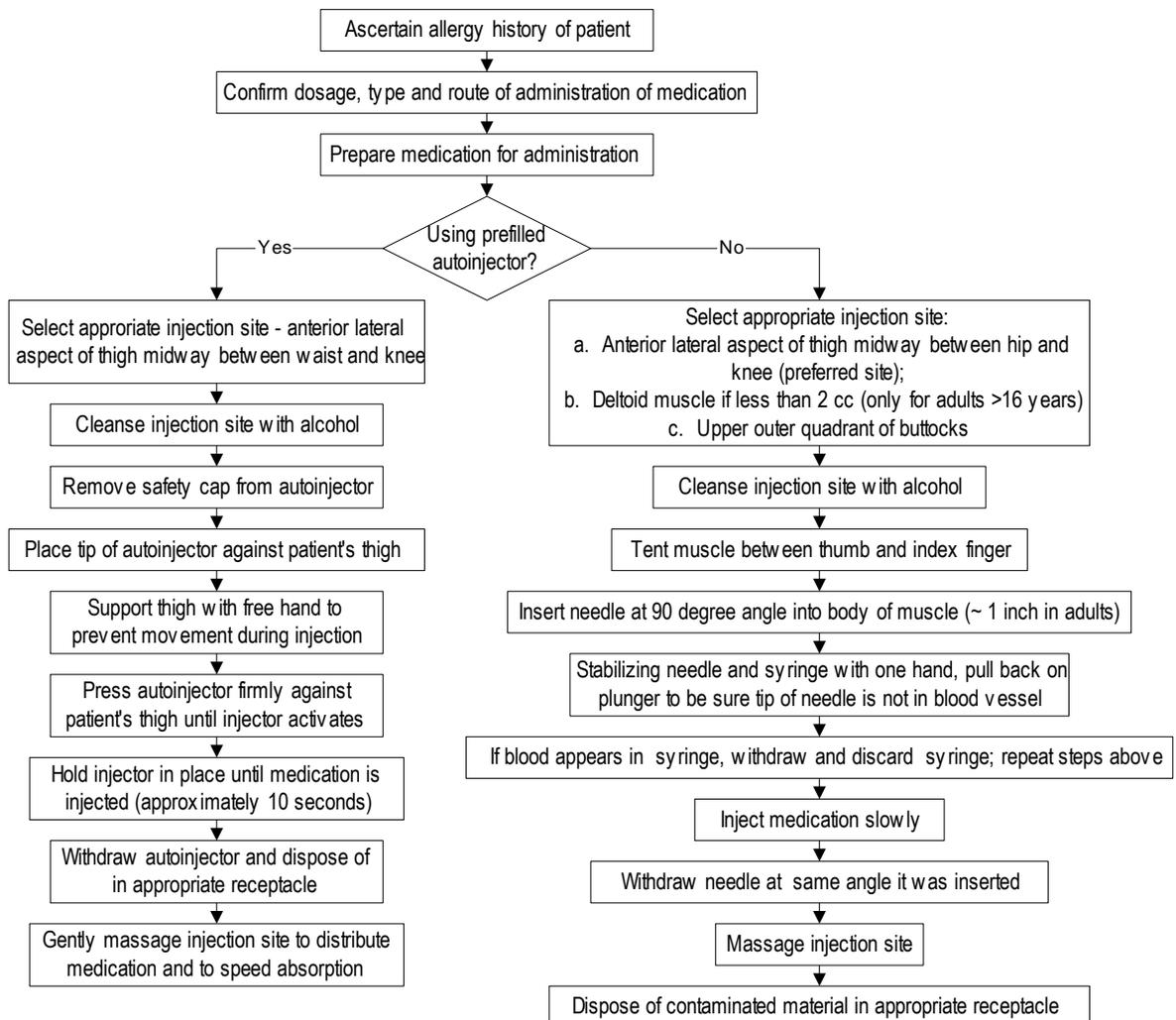
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**MILWAUKEE COUNTY EMS  
PRACTICAL SKILL  
INTRAMUSCULAR**

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**ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATIONS**

<b>Purpose:</b> To deliver medication to the muscle tissue for absorption by blood vessels		<b>Indications:</b> For a patient who needs medication that may be administered via intramuscular route	
<b>Advantages:</b> Delivers medication slowly to the circulatory system for distribution throughout the body Effects sustained for a period of time Does not require IV access	<b>Disadvantages:</b> Pain at injection site Only small volumes (2 - 5 cc) should be given by this route Cannot give tissue-irritating medication by this route	<b>Complications:</b> Infection Accidental IV injection if tip of needle is in vein	<b>Contraindications:</b> Infection in area of injection



**NOTES:**

- The deltoid muscle should not be used as an injection site for patients less than 16 years old.
- No more than 2 cc of medication should be injected via intramuscular route.
- Absorption may be delayed in poor perfusion state. For an anaphylactic patient, consider IV/IO route if patient is in shock and does not rapidly improve with IM epinephrine.