

# FDA extends EpiPen expiration dates to tackle shortage

August 22 2018



(HealthDay)—The expiration dates of certain batches of EpiPens have

been extended by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in an effort to reduce shortages of the life-saving devices.

The FDA said that it has extended by four months the expiration dates of specific lots of 0.3 milligram EpiPens that are expired or close to expiring. The extension beyond the approved 20-month shelf life is based on data provided by EpiPen maker Mylan and reviewed by the FDA. The devices with the extended expiration dates have already been distributed to patients and should have been, and continue to be, stored as labeled, the FDA said.

"We're hopeful this action will ensure patients have access to this important medication and provide additional peace-of-mind to parents as the agency works with the [manufacturer](#) to increase supply," Janet Woodcock, M.D., director of the FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, said in an agency news release.

EpiPens are still available in the United States, but are in limited supply in certain areas due to factors such as supply disruptions and manufacturer issues, according to the FDA. It said it's working closely with Mylan on EpiPen production and supply, and also has contacted other manufacturers of epinephrine auto-injectors about their supply.

**More information:** [More Information](#)

Copyright © 2018 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: FDA extends EpiPen expiration dates to tackle shortage (2018, August 22) retrieved 14 August 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2018-08-fda-epipen-expiration-dates-tackle.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.