

# Glucagon

## GENERIC NAME

Glucagon Hydrochloride

## TRADE NAME

None

## DESCRIPTION

Glucagon is used to increase blood glucose levels, particularly in cases where an IV line cannot be immediately established. Intramuscular (IM) administration results in a quicker onset than subcutaneous (SQ) and is therefore the preferred route.

## HOW SUPPLIED

Vial: 1 mg powder (activated by injection of 1 cc sterile water)

## INDICATIONS

- Hypoglycemia

## CONTRAINDICATIONS

- Allergy or hypersensitivity to Glucagon

## MECHANISM OF ACTION

Glucagon increases circulating blood glucose levels by promoting the breakdown of stored glycogen to glucose. Return to consciousness typically occurs within 5-20 minutes after administration. However, Glucagon may lose its effectiveness if given within the previous 48 hours.

## SIDE EFFECTS

- Hypotension
- Dizziness
- Headache
- Nausea and vomiting

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

After administration of Glucagon, the patient should eat a carbohydrate-rich meal as soon as possible to prevent recurrent hypoglycemia.

## AUTHORIZATION

**EMT:** Not authorized

**AEMT:** Not authorized

**Paramedic:** Standing order

## DOSAGE

- **Adult:** 1 mg IM/SQ
- **Pediatric < 20 kg:** Refer to specific dosages listed in the 402 - Drug Dosage Chart - Pediatric
- **Pediatric > 20 kg:** 1 mg IM/SQ

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Revision #1

Created 28 November 2024 23:07:39 by Admin

Updated 28 November 2024 23:08:09 by Admin