

GLUCAGON ADMINISTRATION

Glucagon Administration

Glucagon – the emergency drug for students with Type 1 diabetes to give if the student:

- Has signs of severe low blood glucose
- Is unable or refuses to eat or drink
- Is unconscious
- Is having a seizure

May be the brand name “Glucagon” or “Glucagen”

Glucagon

- Glucagon is a hormone that raises the level of glucose (sugar) in the blood
- It is given by injection
- It is used to treat severe hypoglycemia (low blood glucose)



Medical Orders

Follow the medical orders for treating severe hypoglycemia (low blood glucose)



The parents/guardians will supply the school with a glucagon kit.

The student with Type 1 diabetes must have a glucagon kit available at all times.

Glucagon/Glucagen Kit

The kit contains a vial (bottle) of glucagon in powder form and a prefilled syringe with a clear liquid.

The two ingredients should only be mixed just before the glucagon is to be injected.



Glucagon/Glucagen Kit (*continued*)

- The kit may be stored at room temperature
- The kit may be kept in an easily accessible location

Glucagon/Glucagen Kit (*continued*)

- On written request of the parent AND with prescriber's order:
 - Student may self-carry all necessary supplies to care for diabetes
 - In school or any school-related activity
- If the student uses this equipment in any other manner, this permission can be revoked

REMEMBER!

It is always better to check a student's blood glucose level as often as needed to ensure that an emergency hypoglycemic (low blood glucose) situation does not occur!



How to Administer Glucagon

- Each glucagon kit contains pictorial instructions on administering
- Administer glucagon into the thigh, arm, or buttock

How to Administer Glucagon

1. Have someone call Emergency Medical Services (EMS or 9-1-1)
2. Open kit
3. Remove the flip top seal from vial and clean the top with the alcohol swab
4. Remove needle protector from syringe
5. Insert the needle into the vial



How to Administer Glucagon *(continued)*

6. Slowly inject all the liquid from syringe into vial of powder
7. Gently swirl vial (don't shake) until clear
8. With the needle still in the vial, carefully pull back on the plunger to withdraw the prescribed amount of glucagon back into the syringe
The medical orders should specify the amount.
9. Turn student to one side



How to Administer Glucagon *(continued)*

10. Clean the skin at the injection site with the alcohol swab

11. Insert needle at straight (90 degree angle) into the outer thigh, arm or buttock

12. Gently push on the plunger to inject the liquid

13. Withdraw needle and apply light pressure to the site



How to Administer Glucagon *(continued)*

14. Place used needle and syringe back in kit and close lid

DO NOT RECAP NEEDLE!

15. When EMS arrives, the student may be transported for medical care

16. Dispose of the used kit by giving to EMS or placing in sharps container



After Glucagon is Given

- When the student wakes up, encourage child to:
 - Take sips of carbohydrate-containing fluid (such as fruit juice, regular soda[not diet])
 - If tolerated, follow with a carbohydrate-containing snack (such as cheese and crackers, granola bar)
- Contact parent

VISIT THE AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION
“SAFE AT SCHOOLS” VIDEO CHAPTER 6 –
GLUCAGON ADMINISTRATION

at:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OC-
dcDgmXul&feature=share&list=EC3DE9DDE8EB
2A2E56](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OC-dcDgmXul&feature=share&list=EC3DE9DDE8EB2A2E56)