

Glucagon

Generic Name: Glucagon
Trade Name:
Classification: hormone, antihypoglycemic
Supplied: 1 mg (unit) vial, 10 mg (units) vial; *Note: must be reconstituted
Actions (Pharmacodynamics): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stimulates hepatic production of glucose from glycogen stores (glycogenolysis) • Relaxes the musculature of the GI tract • Has positive inotropic and chronotropic effects
Indications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypoglycemia (when IV access cannot be established)
Dosage: Adult: Hypoglycemia: 1 mg IM, q 15-20 minutes (prn) Pediatric: Hypoglycemia: (<5 years) 0.5 mg IM (>5 years) 1.0 mg IM
Route: subcutaneous or intramuscular (IM preferred)
Contraindications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypersensitivity (beef or pork proteins as glucagon derived from beef or pork pancreas) • Pheochromocytoma • Hyperglycemia
Precautions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After patient regains LOC – supplemental carbohydrates should be provided as soon as possible • Lowers serum potassium levels • Can cause tachycardia, nausea, vomiting or hypertension
Notes: Will not be effective if there are not sufficient stores of glycogen in the liver