



PARENT FACTSHEETS

Mini-Dose Glucagon Rescue Protocol

Purpose:

To prevent hospital admission of children with hypoglycaemia due to intercurrent illness or poor oral intake.

Principles

To be used when:

- blood glucose levels are $<4\text{mmol/L}$
- Child conscious but not able to eat due to intercurrent illness / food refusal
- Can be used to bring BGL up to $4\text{-}8\text{mmol/L}$
- May prevent the development of a more severe hypo and avoid a hospital admission.

Preparing Glucagon (as per the packaging instructions)

- Open Glucagon pack and flip the orange lid of the bottle
- Remove protective rubber needle cover from Glucagon Syringe
- Inject all of the water into the Glucagon bottle and mix
- Remove Glucagon syringe and discard
- Use an Insulin syringe (smallest available) to draw up the Glucagon dose (see dose guide)

Dose guide-1 unit per year of age to a maximum of 15 units

Age in years	Dose in Units
1 year old	1 unit
2 year old	2 units
3 year old	3 units
4 years to 15 years	4 to 15 units based on age
Over 15 years old	15 units maximum

- Measure by the units marked on the insulin syringe
- Store prepared Glucagon in the fridge (up to 24 hours) and reuse as necessary

Administering the glucagon (when blood glucose <4mmol/L)

- Draw up the “mini-dose” of glucagon with an insulin syringe (smallest available)
- Give Glucagon subcutaneously as you would insulin
- Repeat BGL at 30 minutes and 1 hour. If BGL<5.5mmol/L at 30 minutes give double the original dose
- Continue hourly BGL testing and repeat using previous effective dose if <4.0mmol/l
- You can continue this cycle to keep BGL from 4-8mmol/L, with “mini-doses” of Glucagon every 2-3 hours.
- Ensure good sugar/fluid intake. Push sugar containing fluids ½ to 1 cup per hour
- Keep in touch with Paediatric Diabetes Medical Team.
- Your child may need to be admitted to hospital if there is no improvement
- Remember to replace your Glucagon Hypo kit as soon as possible

References

Haymond MW Mini-dose glucagon rescue for hypoglycaemia in children with Type 1 Diabetes. *Diab Care* 2001; 24:643-5
Hasan K: Mini dose glucagon is effective at diabetes camp. *J Paediatrics* 2004; June 144 (6):834
Hartley M, Thomsett MJ, Cotterill AM: Mini-dose glucagon rescue for hypoglycaemia in children with type 1 Diabetes: the Brisbane experience. Department of Endocrinology, mater Children's Hospital, Brisbane. Oral presentation, APEG 2004.



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