

Glucagon

Glucagon is a non-prescription drug used in emergencies to make blood glucose levels go up when blood sugar goes very low. **Low blood sugar can result in convulsions, and even lead to brain damage and death.**

Glucagon is NOT sugar – it allows the body to use sugar which has already been stored in the liver for emergency energy.

Important facts to remember:

- Glucagon is used only for treating severe low blood sugar in people who are unable to swallow or who are unconscious.
- Glucagon may cause nausea and vomiting after it is given.
- Glucagon comes in a powder with syringe containing liquid. This is called a ***Glucagon Emergency Kit***.
- Do not use Glucagon after the expiry date.
- Read instructions for using the ***Glucagon Emergency Kit*** before an emergency happens.
- Place the person who is having the low blood sugar on their side to prevent choking if they should vomit following the Glucagon injection.

Directions for using the Glucagon Emergency Kit

NOTE: Glucagon should not be prepared for injection until the emergency arises.

1. Call 911.
2. Remove the flip-off seal from the bottle of Glucagon.
3. Remove the needle protector from the syringe and inject all the contents of the syringe into the bottle of Glucagon.
4. Remove the syringe. Shake the vial gently until the liquid is clear. Glucagon should not be used unless it is clear and looks like water.
5. Using the same syringe, withdraw all of the solution from the bottle until it is empty.
6. Inject Glucagon.

To give Glucagon

Select an injection site: buttocks, upper/ outer thigh, or upper arm.

Insert the needle at a 90° angle.

Inject all of the contents.

