

KNOW HYPO

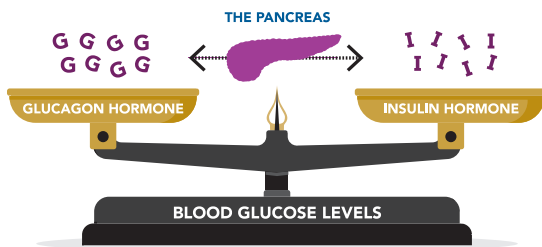
ALL ABOUT GLUCAGON

BEING PREPARED TO USE EMERGENCY GLUCAGON MAY SAVE A LIFE

GLUCAGON HORMONE

The pancreas produces a hormone called glucagon, which keeps blood glucose from **dropping too low**, while insulin is produced to keep blood glucose from **rising too high**. The two hormones counterbalance each other to stabilize blood glucose.

When someone with diabetes experiences hypoglycemia (low blood glucose), administration of glucagon can raise the person's blood glucose quickly.



SIGNS OF SEVERE HYPOGLYCEMIA

When blood glucose drops and is not addressed promptly with a fast-acting sugar source, it can lead to severe hypoglycemia.

Signs include:



CONFUSION



LOSS OF CONSCIOUSNESS

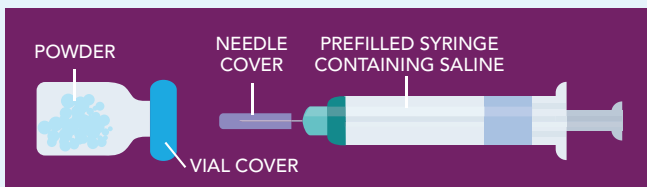


SEIZURE

When these symptoms occur, using emergency glucagon can be life-saving.

ADMINISTERING GLUCAGON

INJECTION KIT:



1. Remove the covers from the powder vial and syringe in the kit.
2. Empty the saline from the syringe into the powder vial.
3. Dissolve the powder in the saline.
4. Draw the solution back into the syringe.
5. Inject the solution into the thigh or arm of the person with severe hypoglycemia.

AUTOINJECTOR PEN:

This comes filled with a premixed form of glucagon.



1. Remove the cap and press the autoinjector against the person's skin. A dose of glucagon is automatically injected.

DRY NASAL SPRAY:

1. Insert the tip of the device into one nostril of the person experiencing hypoglycemia.
2. Push the plunger.



Visit endocrine.org for more information.

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PATIENT EDUCATION RESOURCES

EMERGENCY GLUCAGON FOR KIDS

Severe low blood sugar is a medical emergency, which is why it is important to be prepared with emergency glucagon. A pediatrician can help recommend an emergency glucagon option. The glucagon autoinjector pen is approved for use in children ages two and older. Nasal glucagon is approved for children ages four and older.

Anyone with contact to a child with diabetes should know how to spot signs of hypoglycemia, and should be ready to give emergency glucagon if needed.

These people include:



FAMILY MEMBERS



DAY CARE PROVIDERS



TEACHERS



COACHES



OTHER CAREGIVERS

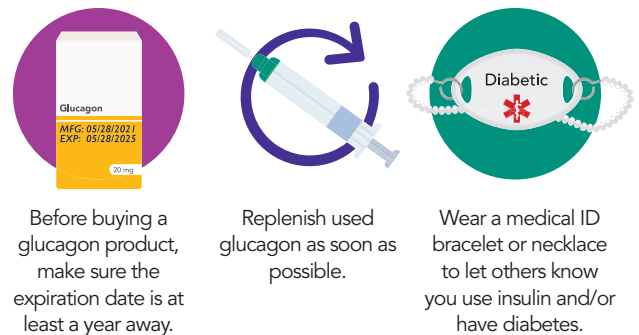
CARE PROVIDER TIPS:

-  Act quickly and look for the person's glucagon medication. Call **911** if glucagon is unavailable.
-  Follow the instructions on the medicine.
-  Turn the person on their side after giving glucagon. Vomiting is common, so this prevents choking.
-  Do not hesitate. People cannot overdose on glucagon, so don't worry about giving too much.
-  Call **911** if the person is **still unconscious after 15 minutes** of receiving glucagon or if they're **awake but still confused**.

CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER



THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND



Patients have questions. We have answers.

Endocrine Society is your trusted source for endocrine patient education. Our free, online resources are available at endocrine.org/patient-engagement

