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# How to administer Glucagon injection

## Patient information leaflet

If you need this leaflet in a different language or accessible format  
please speak to a member of staff who can arrange it for you.

اگر به این بروشور به زبان دیگر یا در قالب دسترس پذیر نیاز دارید،  
لطفاً با یکی از کارکنان صحبت کنید تا آن را برای شما تهیه کند.

Jeśli niniejsza ulotka ma być dostępna w innym języku lub formie,  
proszę skontaktować się z członkiem personelu, który ją dla Państwa przygotowuje.

Dacă aveți nevoie de această broșură într-o altă limbă sau într-un format accesibil,  
vă rog să discutați cu un membru al personalului să se ocupe  
de acest lucru pentru dumneavoastră

如果您需要本传单的其他语言版本或无障碍格式，请联系工作人员为您安排。

إذا احتجت إلى هذه النشرة بلغة أخرى، أو بتنسيق  
يسهل الوصول إليه، يرجى التحدث إلى أحد الموظفين لترتيب ذلك لك.

## What is Glucagon?

Glucagon is a hormone produced by the pancreas, which releases glucose stored in the liver and raises the blood glucose level. Glucagon is given by injection if a child or young person is severely hypoglycaemic and unable to eat or drink, having a seizure or unconscious.

It will quickly raise blood glucose levels and reverse a severe hypoglycaemic episode in 10 – 15 minutes. The effect of the injection lasts for 30-60 minutes.

- 1mg (1 mL- whole vial) to be given to children over 8yrs old and weighing more than 25kg. 0.5 mg (0.5 mL) to under 8 yrs old and weighing less than 25kg.

Glucagon is not dangerous if you accidentally overdose.

Always keep Glucagon available for emergency use, check the expiry date regularly and ensure the seal is not broken. Replacements can be ordered from your GP. Glucagon will last for 18 months if kept in a cupboard, or 3 years if kept in the fridge.

- Do not prepare Glucagon for injection until you are ready to use it.
- Severe side effects are very rare, although nausea and vomiting may occur occasionally.
- A few people may be allergic to glucagon or to one of the inactive ingredients in glucagon, or may experience rapid heart beat for a short while.

If you experience any other reactions which are likely to have been caused by glucagon, please contact your doctor.

## Notes

## Recovery and treatment

After the child has regained consciousness leave them in the recovery position as one of the common side effects of glucagon is vomiting/nausea. Feed the child as soon as they are able to swallow. Give them a fast acting source of glucose (such as glucojuice, glucotabs or Lucozade), followed by a long acting source of glucose

If the child does not wake within 15 minutes, you may be advised by ambulance control to give another dose of glucagon if you have one available.



You can scan this QR code to access the Digibete Glucagon video to support your training. If you need to use glucagon out of hours, please inform the diabetes team.

The diabetes team are here to support you, if you have any questions contact the diabetes team on:

### Ormskirk:

- Paediatric Diabetes Office: 01695 656 766 or 01695 656 867.
- Children's Ward, Ormskirk Hospital: 01695 656 912.

### Whiston:

- Whiston Hospital: 0151 430 1404.

## How to give a glucagon injection

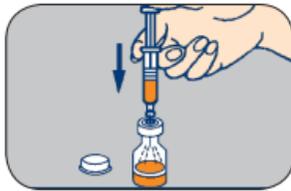
If you are giving Glucagon ring 999 or ask another person to do this for you. They will support you during the administration of Glucagon.

When you break the seal and open the box you will have a glass vial with a white powder inside, a pre-filled syringe containing water and a patient drug information leaflet. Underneath the leaflet there is a set of 4 small pictures that show you how to mix and administer the glucagon.

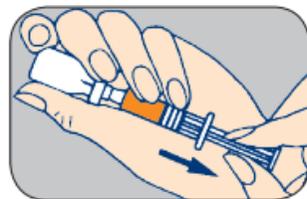


Please read the full instructions that come with your medicine

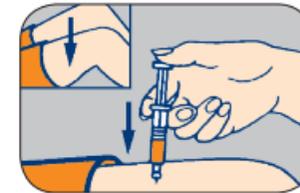
1. Find a flat surface and empty the contents of the orange box onto the surface.
2. Flip the cap off the top of the vial to expose the grey rubber seal.
3. Remove the cover from the syringe needle.
4. Insert the needle into the grey rubber seal on the vial and press down the plunger, pushing all the water into the white powder in the vial. The powder will dissolve very quickly.



5. Leave the syringe in place, turn the vial and syringe upside down and withdraw either 0.5mls or 1ml back into the syringe. This will depend on the age and weight of the child.



6. Ensure all the air is expelled from the syringe by holding it upright and gently pushing the plunger until a bead of fluid appears at the tip of the needle.
7. Gently pinch up the skin on the side of the thigh or the outer edge of the buttock. Insert the needle at a 90 degree angle, and deliver the dose by pushing the plunger down into the muscle until all the dose is given.



8. Safely dispose of the sharps in a sharps bin and discard any unused portion of the drug.