

# GLUCAGON

## PHARMACOLOGY & MECHANISM OF ACTIONS:

- ❑ Anti-hypoglycemic agent
- ❑ Glucagon is a hormone, which causes glucose metabolism in the body
- ❑ It works opposite of insulin, which causes glucose storage, and it is present normally in the body
- ❑ It is released at times of insult or injury when glucose is needed, and mobilizes glucose from body glycogen stores.
- ❑ Return to consciousness should be within 20 minutes of IM dose if patient is hypoglycemic
- ❑ Stimulates cardiac activity independent of usual pathways in beta-blocker and calcium channel blocker overdoses.

## INDICATIONS:

- ❑ Useful in counteracting severe hypoglycemic reactions in known diabetic patients, where administration of oral sugar or IV Dextrose is impossible or impractical
- ❑ Beta-blocker and Calcium channel blocker overdoses

## CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- ❑ None noted

## ADMINISTRATION:

	ADULT	PEDIATRIC	
<b>AEMT</b>	<p><b><i>HYPOGLYCEMIA</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ 1mg IM, may be repeated once after 20 min</li> </ul>	<p><b><i>HYPOGLYCEMIA</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ 0.1 – 0.2 mg/kg (max single dose 1mg) IM may be repeated 1 time after 20 min</li> </ul>	<b>AEMT</b>
<b>PARAMEDIC</b>	<p><b><i>BETA &amp; CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKER OVERDOSE</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ 1 - 3 mg IM or slow IV</li> </ul>	<p><b><i>BETA &amp; CALCIUM CHANNEL BLOCKER OVERDOSE</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ 0.5 mg IM</li> </ul>	<b>PARAMEDIC</b>

## PRECAUTIONS & SIDE EFFECTS:

- ❑ Nausea
- ❑ Vomiting
- ❑ Patients developing symptoms of hypoglycemia after a dose of Glucagon should be given glucose orally or intravenously immediately, if possible
- ❑ Pregnancy Category B

## SPECIAL NOTES:

- ❑ IV dextrose is the treatment of choice for insulin shock
- ❑ Persons with little or no glycogen stores (juvenile type diabetes, chronic hypoglycemia, malnutrition, adrenal insufficiency, hepatic dysfunction, alcoholism) may not be able to mobilize any glucose in response to glucagon.