

6.12 Glucagon (GlucaGen)

Indications: 4.2 Hypoglycemic Emergency (no timely IV/IO access), 4.4 Seizure and may be required in 2.3 Anaphylaxis/Anaphylactic Shock – Adult and Child.

Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to Glucagon or its components, insulinoma, pheochromocytoma.

Precautions: Supplemental carbohydrates should be given to patients who respond to Glucagon for severe hypoglycemia to prevent secondary hypoglycemia. Monitor blood glucose levels closely.

Adverse effects: Hypotension, hypertension, and tachycardia. Nausea and vomiting (may be treated with Dimenhydrinate 25-50 mg IV or 50 mg IM or 50-100 mg PO).

Pharmacology: onset of action (IM) = 30 min; duration of action (glucose elevation) = 60-90 min; $t_{1/2}$ (half-life) = 8-18 min.

Dosage and administration: Glucagon solutions should not be used unless they are clear and of a water-like consistency.

- ◇ Adults and children > 20 kg: 1 mg IM q20 min prn
- ◇ Children ≤ 20 kg: 0.5 mg IM (or 0.02-0.03 mg/kg/dose) q20 min prn

6.13 Glucose Gel (Insta-Glucose)

Indications: 4.2 Hypoglycemic Emergency.

Contraindications: nil.

Precautions: Not to be administered to an unconscious patient.

Dosage and administration:

- ◇ Apply up to 1 tube to inside lip and cheeks. Rub on and do not apply as a “clump” if any airway compromise.