



ADULT MEDICATION GUIDELINE

Glucagon

Scope (Staff):	All WNHS Staff
Scope (Area):	Obstetrics and Gynaecology

This document should be read in conjunction with the [Disclaimer](#).

Quick Links

[Dose](#)

[Administration](#)

[Monitoring](#)

[Pregnancy and Breastfeeding](#)

Restrictions

[Formulary: Unrestricted](#)

Medication Class

Hyperglycaemic pancreatic hormone

Presentation

Form: 1mg kit for Injection

Kit contains:

- Vial with 1 mg (1 international unit) of glucagon hydrochloride
- Glass syringe containing 1 mL of water for injections

Storage

Store at room temperature, below 25°C, in original packaging to protect from light.

Dose

Severe Hypoglycaemia

Route: Subcut/IV/IM

Dose: 1mg

Administration

All administrations are by injection using the kit, reconstitution is always required:

Step 1 Reconstitution: The freeze-dried glucagon should be dissolved in the accompanying

diluent. Inject the water for injections (1 mL) into the vial containing the freeze-dried glucagon. Gently shake the vial until the glucagon is completely dissolved and the solution is clear. Withdraw the solution back into the syringe. The reconstituted solution appears clear and colourless and forms an injection of 1 mg (1 unit) per mL.

Step 2 Administration: Refer to [Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook](#)

IM Injection:

Inject into the thigh, gluteal or deltoid muscle.

SUBCUT Injection

Inject into the thigh, buttocks or upper arm.

IV Injection

Inject undiluted over at least 1 minute.

Monitoring

- Response to glucagon should occur within 10 minutes; If the patient does not respond within 10 minutes, intravenous glucose should be given.
- When the patient has responded to treatment, give oral carbohydrate to restore the liver glycogen and to prevent secondary hypoglycaemia.

Pregnancy

1st Trimester: Safe to use

2nd Trimester: Safe to use

3rd Trimester: Safe to use

Breastfeeding

Safe to use

Related Policies, Procedures & Guidelines

WNHS Clinical Practice Guidelines:

[Diabetes](#)

[Anaphylaxis](#)

WNHS Pharmaceutical and Medicines Management Guidelines:

[Medication Administration](#)

References

Australian Medicines Handbook. Glucagon (endocrine). In: Australian Medicines Handbook [Internet]. Adelaide (South Australia): Australian Medicines Handbook; 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 03]. Available from: <https://amhonline.amh.net.au/>

MIMS Australia. Glucagon. In: MIMS Online [Internet]. St Leonards (New South Wales): MIMS Australia; 2023 [cited 2023 Feb 03]. Available from: <https://www.mimsonline.com.au>

Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Glucagon. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2022 [cited 2023 Feb 03]. Available from: <http://aidh.hcn.com.au>

The Royal Women's Hospital. Glucagon. In: Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Medicines Guide [Internet]. Parkville (Victoria): The Royal Women's Hospital; 2022 [cited 2023 Feb 03]. Available from: <https://thewomenspbmg.org.au/>

Keywords	glucagon, hypoglycaemia, diabetes in pregnancy, GlucaGen Hypokit				
Document Owner:	Chief Pharmacist				
Author/ Reviewer	KEMH Pharmacy Department				
Version Info:	5.0				
Date First Issued:	30/06/2015	Last Reviewed:	20/02/2023	Review Date:	20/02/2026
Endorsed by:	Medicines and Therapeutics Committee			Date:	07/03/2023
NSQHS Standards Applicable:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Std 1: Clinical Governance <input type="checkbox"/>  Std 2: Partnering with Consumers <input type="checkbox"/>  Std 3: Preventing and Controlling Healthcare Associated Infection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  Std 4: Medication Safety		<input type="checkbox"/>  Std 5: Comprehensive Care <input type="checkbox"/>  Std 6: Communicating for Safety <input type="checkbox"/>  Std 7: Blood Management <input type="checkbox"/>  Std 8: Recognising and Responding to Acute Deterioration		
<p>Printed or personally saved electronic copies of this document are considered uncontrolled. Access the current version from WNHS HealthPoint.</p>					

The health impact upon Aboriginal people has been considered, and where relevant incorporated and appropriately addressed in the development of this document (insert ISD Number). (Please refer to the Aboriginal Health Impact Statement and Declaration for Department of Health and Health Service Provider Guidelines – please delete once you have completed this).

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

© Women and Newborn Health Service 2023

Copyright of this material is vested in the State of Western Australia unless otherwise indicated. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the provisions of the Copyright Act 1968, no part may be reproduced or re-used for any purposes whatsoever without written permission of the State of Western Australia.