

GLUCAGON

CLASSIFICATION

Catalyst to release liver glycogen stores

ACTION

1. Increases blood glucose concentration by converting liver glycogen to glucose

INDICATIONS

1. Suspected hypoglycemia, especially if IV insertion is difficult or impossible
2. Beta blocker overdose

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Situations having decreased liver glycogen stores:

1. Liver disease
2. Starvation

USE WITH CAUTION

Patient will require IV D50W or oral carbohydrates (food, orange juice with sugar, etc.) once recovered OR if no response to glucagon.

ADVERSE EFFECTS TO OBSERVE FOR AND REPORT TO THE PHYSICIAN

1. Nausea and vomiting
2. Blood glucose levels fall to normal or to hypoglycemia level in 1-1½ hours if patient does not receive IV D50W or food by mouth after glucagon given.