

Glucagon administration

Statewide Diabetes Clinical Network



Administering glucagon for severe hypoglycemia

Call for an ambulance and ask the operator to talk you through the following procedure to administer the glucagon. If you have been trained and are confident to administer the glucagon you can perform this procedure while another person calls for an ambulance.



1. Remove the orange protective tamper-proof cap from the GlucaGen vial

2. Remove the cap from the needle
3. Insert the needle and inject the liquid contents of the syringe into the GlucaGen vial. Do not withdraw the needle from the vial
4. Rotate the vial and syringe until the powder is completely dissolved and solution is clear
5. Draw the dose into the syringe
6. Withdraw the syringe from the vial and squeeze out a few drops to remove the air pocket
7. Inject the entire contents into the flesh of the patient's upper thigh



Note: Do not inject glucagon into a vein

Glucagon will take approximately 10 minutes to work, in which time the ambulance should arrive to take over care of the patient. When the patient has recovered they must have their levels checked every 15 minutes and be provided with a quick acting carbohydrate food/drink followed by a longer acting carbohydrate food.