

Kittitas County Prehospital EMS Protocols

SUBJECT: GLUCAGON

ACTION:

- Causes breakdown of glycogen to glucose.
- Inhibits glycogen synthesis.
- Elevates blood glucose level.
- Positive Inotrope.
- Positive Chronotrope

INDICATIONS:

- Hypoglycemia
- Beta Blocker Overdose

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Hypersensitivity to the drug.

PRECAUTIONS:

- Only effective if there are sufficient stores of glycogen within the liver.
- Use with caution in patients with cardiovascular or renal disease.
- Draw blood glucose prior to administration.

SIDE EFFECTS:

- Few in emergency situations

DOSAGE:

- Hypoglycemia: 1 unit may repeat in 10-20 minutes if no response.

- Beta Blocker Overdose: 3-10 units IV over 1 minute. May be followed by an infusion of 2-5 units/hr.

Note: 1 unit = 1 mg

ROUTE:

- IV / IO / IM

PEDIATRIC DOSE:

- Rarely used