

Severe Hypoglycaemia: Fact Sheet

- Check in with your diabetes team if you are planning any changes in your usual routine (ie. holidays, parties etc).
- Always check the blood glucose level before giving glucagon as there may be another reason why your child is unconscious that is not related to the diabetes.
- Always call an ambulance for a severe hypo.
- If your child is under 5 years give half the glucagon injection (1/2 ml). If over 5 years give the whole injection dose (1mL).
- Glucagon is given into the thigh muscle on the side of the leg.
- Glucagon takes 5 – 10 minutes to have an effect on the blood glucose levels.
- Check the expiry date of your Glucagon kit before clinic and request another on prescription if it will expire within the next four months. Register with www.hypohelp.co.nz to remind you about expiry dates of your Glucagon kit.
- Registered nurses working in school are permitted to administer Glucagon if they are competent to do so. Non-medical school personnel are not permitted to administer glucagon unless appropriate training has been given at regular intervals to ensure knowledge levels and competence are maintained.
- Glucagon injection may not work effectively in the presence of alcohol or after high intensity elite level sporting activities (for example: after a marathon).