

SECTION A, PAGE 1: PEDIATRIC HYPOGLYCEMIA MANAGEMENT ALGORITHM FOR PATIENTS WITH DIABETES

NOT FOR USE FOR HYPOGLYCEMIA TREATMENT IN INFANTS <1 MONTH OF AGE

BLOOD GLUCOSE <4 mmol/L (Unless otherwise specified in orders)

1. Assess vital signs and level of consciousness (LOC)

2. **If Airway, Breathing, vitals and/or LOC compromised, call CODE BLUE or 911 (as per site applicability) and initiate resuscitation**

CONSCIOUS

PROCEED TO PAGE 2

UNCONSCIOUS (CODE BLUE and Resuscitation initiated) OR NPO/TPN

1. Attempt to establish IV access and page MD

2. If unable to achieve IV access within **2 minutes**, proceed with giving glucagon (*No IV Access Route*)

IV ACCESS

Practice Level: RN ONLY

1A. Obtain order from MD to give 2 mL/kg D10W bolus.
CRITICAL CARE TEAM ONLY: Can consider using D25W/D50W for the glucose bolus at MD's discretion

2A. Recheck blood glucose in 5-10 min

- If <4.0 mmol/L:
i) Patient remains unconscious and/or NPO: Repeat Step 1A.
**NOTE: Consider giving IM glucagon (as described in Step 1B), especially if hypoglycemia is from an insulin overdose.*
ii) Patient is conscious and able to swallow: Proceed to Step 1C, Page 2.
- If ≥4.0 mmol/L:
i) Patient conscious and NPO: Ensure patient has IV dextrose-containing fluids infusing. Proceed to **SECTION B, Page 3.**
ii) Patient is conscious and able to swallow: Proceed to **SECTION B, Page 3.**

NO IV ACCESS

Practice Level: RN/LPN/RPN

1B. Give glucagon IM (see Appendix):

- 0.25 mg for children 1 to <2 years
- 0.5 mg for children 2 to <5 years of age
- 1 mg for children ≥5 years of age

***Position patient on side, vomiting may occur.**

2B. Recheck blood glucose in 15 minutes

- If <4.0 mmol/L:
i) Patient remains unconscious and/or NPO: Repeat Step 1B. Call IV team/MD to establish emergency IV/IO access.
ii) Patient is conscious and able to swallow: Proceed to Step 1A, Page 2.
iii) Patient conscious but unable to take PO: Proceed to Step 1D, Page 2.
- If ≥4.0 mmol/L:
i) Patient conscious and NPO: Try to establish IV access and start dextrose-containing fluids. Call MD. Proceed **SECTION B.**
ii) Patient is conscious and able to swallow: Proceed to **SECTION B, Page 3.**

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UNCONSCIOUS

CONSCIOUS

GO BACK TO PAGE 1

ABLE TO SWALLOW/ENTERAL ACCESS
(INCLUDES TUBE FEEDS/MODIFIED DIETS)

UNABLE/UNWILLING TO TAKE PO
NO ENTERAL ACCESS

1C. Give fast-acting carbohydrate orally

Children 1–12 months: 6 grams
breastfeed, 70 mL infant formula, or
30 mL 20% sucrose water

Children 1 to <5 years: 6 grams
1.5 Dex4® tabs or 45 mL juice

Children 5 to <10 years: 12 grams
2.5–3 Dex4® tabs or 90 mL juice

Children ≥10 years: 16 grams
4 Dex4® tabs or 120 mL juice

**NOTE: All patients with diabetes should have hypoglycemia treatment supplies in fridge upon admission and duration of inpatient stay*

Tube Feeds: If gastric (NG), use juice, and flush pre/post with water. If post-pyloric (NJ), page MD.

Practice Level: RN/LPN/RPN

1D. Use “mini-dose glucagon” (see Appendix):

Glucagon 0.01 mg per year of age SC
use insulin syringe where 1 “unit” = 0.01 mg
minimum 0.02 mg (2 “units”)
maximum 0.15 mg (15 “units”)
Call MD.

2D. Recheck blood glucose in 15–20 minutes

- **If <4.0 mmol/L**, Repeat Step 1D. Call MD. If blood glucose remains below 4.0 mmol/L after repeating Step 1D twice, call MD again.
- **If ≥4.0 mmol/L**, proceed to **SECTION B**.

2C. Recheck blood glucose in 15–20 minutes

- **If <4.0 mmol/L**, Repeat Step 1C. If blood glucose remains below 4.0 mmol/L after repeating Step 1C twice, call MD.
- **If ≥4.0 mmol/L**, proceed to **SECTION B**.

SECTION B, PAGE 3: ONGOING MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH DIABETES, POST HYPOGLYCEMIA TREATMENT

(NOTE: Blood glucose must be ≥ 4.0 mmol/L)

CONSCIOUS & ABLE TO SWALLOW

1. If next meal/snack is **more than 45 minutes** from the present time, give additional snack immediately after successful treatment of hypoglycemia. Snack should consist of carbohydrate and protein (e.g. crackers with cheese or peanut butter; or for infants, give EBM/Formula)
2. If meal (or usual snack) is **within 45 minutes** from the present time, have the patient eat the meal early, rather than adding an additional meal/snack.

TUBE-FED

1. If tube feed is continuous, continue regular feeding schedule at established rate, as per MD's orders.
2. If tube feed is intermittent and **more than 45 minutes** from present time, obtain order for bolus feed as per MD's recommendations.

IV ACCESS & UNABLE TO TAKE ENTERAL NUTRITION (E.G. NPO/UNCONSCIOUS)

1. Ensure maintenance IV fluids contain dextrose; discuss with MD and ask for new order if a solution change is necessary. [NOTE: D10NS run at 3 mL/kg/h provides a glucose infusion rate of 5 mg/kg/min, which meets the physiological needs of most children >1 years of age.]
2. IV rate should be adjusted to ensure the blood glucose remains in target (e.g. 4 to 10 mmol/L), as specified by orders. Discuss with MD.

NO IV ACCESS & UNABLE TO TAKE ENTERAL NUTRITION (E.G. NPO/UNCONSCIOUS)

1. Discuss treatment options and nutritional plan with MD.

- **Re-check blood glucose 2 hours post hypoglycemia treatment, to ensure it remains ≥ 4.0 mmol/L**

If < 4.0 mmol/L, initiate appropriate hypoglycemia algorithm (**SECTION A**) and call MD

If ≥ 4.0 mmol/L, check blood glucose before next meal/snack, bedtime, or as per MD's orders

- **Review possible causes of hypoglycemia and discuss with MD/care team. Institute prevention measures as appropriate.**

Contributors:

Dr. Colleen Nugent; Michelle Fairney RN; Jill Middlemiss RD, CDE; Cristina Pepe RN, CDE; Dr. Daniel Metzger; Dr. Shazhan Amed; Dr. Jean-Pierre Chanoine; Dr. Kristopher Kang; Janet Bartnik RN, CNE; Heather Nichols RN, CDE.

GLUCAGON Reference Guide

1. Glucagon Packaging

Inside the box is:

- 1 mg vial of powder
- a syringe with 1 mL of diluent



2. Reconstitution

Add the entire syringe of diluent to the vial of powder to get:

1 mg of glucagon per mL



3. Vial Dosage

After mixing, EACH vial contains: 1 mg/1 mL of glucagon

NOTE Ignore the term "1 unit" specified on the vial as this is different from the units marked on insulin syringes



4a. Syringe/Route for glucagon SUBCUT doses less than 0.25 mg

An insulin syringe should be used to properly measure subcutaneous doses less than 0.25 mg.

1 mg glucagon = 1 mL
= 100 units on insulin syringe

Therefore,

**0.01 mg glucagon = 0.01 mL
= 1 unit on insulin syringe**



4b. Syringe/Route for glucagon IM doses 0.25 mg, 0.5 mg or 1 mg

Use empty diluent syringe to measure and draw up the appropriate dose to the respective markings on syringe. The 0.25 mg dose may be approximated half-way to the 0.5 mg line on the syringe.

