

Section: Drug Reference
Subject: GLUCAGON
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Glucagon

1. CLASSIFICATION
 - a. Pancreatic hormone
 - b. Insulin antagonist
2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS
 - a. Protein secreted by the alpha cells of the pancreas.
 - b. Increases blood glucose levels by promoting the breakdown of glycogen and inhibiting the storing of sugar.
 - c. Endogenous catecholamine release.
 - d. Exerts positive inotropic action on the heart and decreased renal vascular resistance.
3. INDICATIONS
 - a. Hypoglycemia when oral glucose or IV dextrose can't be administered
4. CONTRAINDICATIONS - NONE
5. ADVERSE REACTIONS
 - a. Tachycardia
 - b. Hypertension
6. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION POINTS
 - a. Give IM for hypoglycemia
 - b. Degree of success depends on amount of glucose stored
 - c. **Should not be considered a first line choice for hypoglycemia**