

# Let's Talk About...

## Mini-dose glucagon

### What is mini-dose glucagon?

Mini-dose glucagon is a small dose of the hormone glucagon. It is used to treat severe low blood glucose (BG), also called **hypoglycemia** [hy-poh-gly-SEE-mee-uh]. Glucagon helps the body use glucose (sugar) and fat.

You should give your child mini doses of glucagon when they are awake and alert but their BG is below 70mg/dL. This might happen when your child is:

- Sick to their stomach and can't keep food or carbohydrate drinks down
- Being uncooperative and won't eat

### How do I give mini-dose glucagon?

- 1 Prepare the glucagon using the instructions in your child's GlucaGen<sup>®</sup> or glucagon emergency kit. Both can be kept in the refrigerator and are good for 24 hours after being mixed.
- 2 Using an insulin syringe, draw up 1 unit of glucagon for each year of life. (See the dosing chart at right.) Don't give more than 15 units in the first dose.
- 3 Inject the glucagon just as you would inject insulin.
- 4 Check your child's BG in 20 minutes. If it remains below 70mg/dL, **double the dose and give another injection using the same amount.** Check your child's BG again in 20 minutes. If it remains below 70mg/dL, repeat this step.
- 5 **If your child's BG remains below 70mg/dL after 3 double doses, or if your child becomes sleepy, unconscious, or has a seizure, give the standard dose of glucagon and call 911.**

The image shows two glucagon kits. The top one is a red kit with a syringe and vial inside, and a card with instructions. The bottom one is an orange kit labeled 'GlucaGen (Glu-ka-Gen)' with a syringe and vial inside. A text box below the kits provides instructions on how to use them.

To prepare glucagon or GlucaGen, follow the instructions in the kit your child's doctor prescribed. If you don't have one, ask your child's doctor for a prescription right away.

Dosing Chart			
Age	Dose (in units)	Age	Dose (in units)
Younger than 2 years	2	9 years	9
2 years	2	10 years	10
3 years	3	11 years	11
4 years	4	12 years	12
5 years	5	13 years	13
6 years	6	14 years	14
7 years	7	15 years	15
8 years	8	16 years and older	15

