Medication Reference

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TITLE: **Glucagon**

Other Names:
- BAQSIMI (Glucagon Nasal Powder).

Classifications:
- Hyperglycemic Agent

Pharmacodynamics:
- Increases blood sugar by catalyzing liver glycogen stores to glucose

Onset:
- IV: 1 minute
- IM: 8 - 10 min

IN:15 Min (Intranasal Powder)

Peak:
- IV: 30 min.
- IM: 13 – 20 min
- IN: 15-20 min (Intranasal Powder)

Duration:
- IV: 9 - 25 min.
- IM: 12-27 min
- IN: 21-31 min (Intranasal Powder)

Indications:
- Hypoglycemia indicated by a blood glucose determination of < 4.0 mmol/L if patient is ≥ 2 y/o
- Hypoglycemia indicated by a blood glucose determination of < 3.0 mmol/L if patient is < 2 y/o
- Intranasal administration: (≥4 years for IN powder)
- Agitation
- Altered LOA
- Seizure
- Symptoms of stroke

Contraindications:
- Hypersensitivity to the medication
- Pheochromocytoma
- BAQSIMI Nasal Powder: Patients with insulinoma

Precautions:
- Use cautiously in patients with insulinoma

Adverse Reactions:
- Nausea and vomiting
- Hypotension
- Hypokalemia
- Bronchospasm

Drug Interactions:
- Phenytoin (Dilantin) inhibits insulin release subsequent to Glucagon injections

Special Considerations:
- Paramedics may administer a maximum of two (2) doses of Glucagon regardless of any self administered dose prior to their arrival.
- Patients with severely depleted glycogen stores will not respond to Glucagon therapy.
- BAQSIMI has not been studied in pediatric populations under the age of 4.

Preparations:

- Glucagon injectable:1 mg/ml vial (powder) reconstituted with 1cc preload of Normal Saline
- Intranasal Powder:3mg preparation

References:

- Ontario Provincial ALS Patient Care Standards, Version 5.3
- Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties 2024
- BAQSIMI Product Monograph

NOTE: ***The information contained herein does not supersede or negate the MoHLTC Provincial Medical Directives and should only serve as general information about the medication itself. For medication dosages, please refer to the current version of the Ontario Provincial ALS Patient Care Standards.***