Mini-Dose Glucagon

Glucagon is needed when blood sugar levels are below 70 mg/dL and your child is awake but not able to eat or refuses to eat. Glucagon can bring blood sugar levels back up and help to avoid a trip to the hospital.

How to Prepare Glucagon
1. Open glucagon pack and flip the orange lid of the bottle.
2. Remove needle cover from glucagon syringe.
3. Inject all the water into the glucagon bottle and mix.
5. Use an insulin syringe (smallest available) to draw up the glucagon (see dosing guide).

Dosing Guide
Your team will tell you how much to give your child. It will often be 1 unit per year of age as shown in the chart below. The maximum dose at age 15 and older is 15 units.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age in Years</th>
<th>Dose in Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 year old</td>
<td>1 unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 year old</td>
<td>2 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 year old</td>
<td>3 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 years to 15 years old</td>
<td>Units equal age of child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 15 years old</td>
<td>15 units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How to Give Mini-Dose Glucagon
1. Inject glucagon into the skin as you would insulin.
2. Check blood sugar 30 minutes and 1 hour after giving glucagon.
3. If blood sugar is less than 100 mg/dL at 30 minutes, give double the initial dose of glucagon.
4. Keep checking blood sugar every hour. If blood sugar is less than 70 mg/dL, you can repeat the effective glucagon dose if it has been 2 or more hours since the last dose.

You can repeat this cycle to keep blood sugar from 70-100 mg/dL. Mini-doses of glucagon can be given every 2-3 hours if needed. Push fluids with sugar. Aim for ½ to 1 cup per hour.

Keep in touch with the pediatric diabetes team. Your child may need to be seen in the emergency room or be admitted to hospital if there is no improvement. Replace your glucagon emergency kit as soon as possible.

Reference