

Glucagon Infusion

For use in beta-blocker overdose only where there presence of any of:

- Severe hypotension
- Heart failure
- Cardiogenic shock

Initial bolus:

- 5-10 mg IV undiluted over 1-2 mins

Preparation of infusion:

- Remove 25 mL from a 250 mL bag of 5% glucose
- **Add 25 pre-filled syringes of 1mg in 1 mL glucagon (found in resus fridge)**
- This gives 25 mg of glucagon in 250 mL of 5% glucose (0.1% solution)
- The on-call pharmacist may need to be contacted to obtain the required amount of pre-filled syringes

Infusion:

- Commence at a rate of **1-5 mg/hour (10-50 mL/h)**
- Titrate according to patient's response (do not 10 mg/hour)

Monitor for side effects:

- Vomiting (consider prophylactic treatment with an anti-emetic)
- Hyperglycaemia
- Hypokalaemia
- Hypocalcaemia