

## USING EMERGENCY GLUCAGON

**WHEN** – use glucagon for treatment of severe hypoglycemia in patients with diabetes when they are confused and unable to treat themselves by eating or drinking.

**WHY** – severe hypoglycemia can result in severe medical complications such as unconsciousness, seizure and even death. It is important to act quickly if you suspect severe hypoglycemia.

**How** – Open the emergency glucagons kit. Mix the syringe of fluid with the powdered medication. Swirl the bottle to dissolve and mix the medication. Draw the mixed solution back into the syringe and inject under the skin of the patient (usually stomach, arm, thigh or buttock).

If the patient does not wake up within 15 minutes after injection call 911. **Failure to wake up may indicate severe hyperglycemia and will require medical attention.**

Generally a hypoglycemic patient will become more coherent within 5–15 minutes after taking glucagon. When they improve, they should test their blood glucose and monitor it more frequently. They may need to eat a snack to keep the blood sugar in a safe range after the glucagon has been administered.