

Comment from Katherine Plackett

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The EMS which is charged with saving people in life threatening emergencies has not changed their protocol for diabetes management in the event of a low blood sugar. EMS currently can only use glucagon if EMS personnel have advanced training perhaps due to the complexity of administering glucagon. In rural areas or places where EMS response is limited, EMTs and EMRs may be the only first responders available. Further, many college campuses have student run, volunteer EMS departments, but they too are not allowed to administer glucagon. In the last 5 or more years new products have been developed such as Baqsimi (a nasal glucagon) and Gvoke (a prefilled glucagon pen) that require minimal training and can be used more safely and effectively to save a life. These tools should be available for use by all levels of EMS in the event of a Severe Hypoglycemic Emergency.