

AG17 Hyper/Hypoglycemia

Objectives:

- To assess and appropriately treat patients with hyper/hypoglycemia

General Information:

- Oral glucose may be administered by EMT-Bs and above providers on standing orders, provided the patient meets the following criteria:
 - a) Glucometry < 60 mg/dL
 - b) Known or suspected history of diabetes
 - c) Conscious and able to swallow
 - d) Able to maintain own airway
- Dextrose 50% may be administered rectally with physician order
- Dextrose administration requires a patent flowing IV line, not a saline lock
- Patients with a prolonged period of hypoglycemia may not respond to glucagon
- Alcoholics and chronically malnourished patients (such as homeless people) may need thiamine to properly metabolize dextrose



Warnings/Alerts:

- Do not administer oral glucose to patients that are not able to swallow or protect their own airway
- If the IV infiltrates while administering dextrose, stop dextrose administration immediately

OMD Notes:

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References:

AAOS Emergency Care & Transportation of the Sick and Injured 9th Edition pgs 350, 482-497
Mosby's Paramedic Textbook, Third Edition, 2007 pg 858-862

Performance Indicators:

Documented Cause (If Known) Treatment and Response to Treatment

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