	COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY	Document #	9007.01
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	Pediatric Diabetic Emergency (Hypoglycemia/Hyperglycemia)	Last Approved Date:	12/09/21
		Effective Date:	07/01/22
		Next Review Date:	09/01/23

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<b>EMS Medical Director</b>	EMS Administrator

## Purpose:

A. To establish treatment standard for patients exhibiting signs and symptoms of a diabetic emergency.

## **Authority:**

- A. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

#### Protocol:

- A. The ability to maintain temperature in prehospital settings in pediatric patients is a significant problem with a dose dependent increase in mortality for temperatures below 37°C or 98.6°F. Simple interventions to prevent hypothermia can reduce mortality. During transport warm and maintain normal temperature, being careful to avoid hyperthermia.
- B. Perform blood glucose determination.

## Hypoglycemia:

- 1. Blood Glucose Level ≤ 60 mg/dl
- 2. History of Diabetes
- 3. Weakness
- 4. Confusion
- 5. Nausea/Vomiting
- 6. Coma

#### **BLS**

- 1. Supplemental O2 as necessary to maintain SpO2 ≥ 94%. Use the lowest concentration and flow rate of O2 as possible.
- 2. Airway adjuncts as needed.
- 3. If trauma suspected, assess for traumatic injury and/or need for Spinal Motion Restriction (SMR) when indicated per PD# 8044.
- 4. If patient is seizing, protect the patient from further injury.
- 5. If Blood Glucose is ≤ 60 mg/dl:
  - If the patient is alert and oriented, consider: Orange juice sweetened with sugar, regular soft drinks, oral glucose paste or 50% dextrose. Have the patient swallow a small amount of water, and if tolerated, EMT may give glucose.
- 6. Transport.

#### **ALS**

- 1. Initiate vascular access. Titrate to an appropriate Systolic Blood Pressure for patient's age.
- 2. If blood glucose > 60 mg/dl, consider other causes of decreased sensorium.
- 3. If blood glucose ≤ 60 mg/dl and patient doesn't tolerate oral glucose, treat as follows:
  - Dextrose 0.5 gm/kg IV/IO up to 12.5 gm.
- 4. If blood sugar remains ≤ 60 mg/dl give additional
  - Dextrose 0.5 gm/kg up to 12.5 gm
- 5. If IV access is unavailable or delay is anticipated, treatment options are:
  - Glucagon 0.5 mg Intramuscular (IM) if blood sugar < 60 mg/dl OR</li>
  - Dextrose 0.5 gm/kg IO.
  - If blood sugar remains ≤ 60 mg/dl, give additional Dextrose 0.5 gm/kg for a maximum dose of 1 gm/kg
- 6. Airway management as needed per PD# 8020.

**NOTE:** Concentrations of 10% Dextrose (D10), 25%, or 50% Dextrose (D50) may be used.

- If IV access is unavailable and the blood sugar ≤ 60 mg/dl or decreased responsiveness continues for more than fifteen (15) minutes after administration of Glucagon, IO access should be established.
- In the event of a glucometer failure, administer 0.5 gm/kg for a maximum dose of 1 gm/kg of Dextrose or 0.5 mg of Glucagon IM based on clinical assessment.
- Cardiac monitoring.

## Hyperglycemia:

- 1. Blood Glucose Level ≥ 350mg/dl
- 2. History of Diabetes
- 3. Weakness
- 4. Confusion
- 5. Nausea/Vomiting
- 6. Fruity-smelling breath
- 7. Shortness of Breath
- 8. Coma

### **BLS**

- 1. Supplemental O2 as necessary to maintain SpO2  $\geq$  94%. Use the lowest concentration and flow rate of O2 as possible.
- 2. Pediatric Airway Management as needed per PD# 8837.
- 3. Spinal motion restriction when indicated per PD# 8044.
- 4. Perform blood glucose determination.
- 5. If patient is seizing, protect the patient from further injury.
- 6. Transport

## ALS

- Perform blood glucose determination, if blood glucose ≥ 350 mg/dl and no evidence of fluid overload, initiate vascular access, and administer a Normal Saline bolus of 20 mg/kg.
- 2. Airway adjuncts as needed
- 3. Cardiac Monitoring
- 4. Ondansetron when indicated for Nausea/Vomiting per PD# 9020

# **Consider AEIOUTIPS:**

Alcohol Trauma
Epilepsy Infection
Insulin Psychiatric

Overdose Stroke or Cardiovascular

Uremia

Cross Reference: PD# 8044 – Spinal Motion Restriction

PD# 9020 – Nausea and Vomiting

PD# 8015 – Trauma

PD# 9016 – Pediatric Parameters

PD# 8837 - Pediatric Airway Management