

PROTOCOL FOR: Hypoglycemic Reaction: Acute (ADULT)

DESIRED

PATIENT OUTCOMES: Patient will achieve a normal blood glucose > 100 mg/dl prior to discharge or transfer from the ED.

CLINICAL
ASSESSMENT

AND CARE:

1. Obtain past medical history/current medications/allergies.
2. Note following factors:
 - a. decreased or delayed food intake
 - b. excessive exercise
 - c. increased Ethanol intake without carbohydrate intake
 - d. medication error, i.e., excessive insulin or oral agent if known diabetic
3. Obtain vital signs.
4. Establish IV access.
5. Determine blood glucose via department blood glucose meter upon arrival to ED.
6. If blood glucose < 40, draw serum sample for lab glucose, then administer 25gm D₅₀ IV per MD order.
7. Monitor for signs and symptoms of recurrent hypoglycemia. Repeat glucose monitoring prn.
8. Provide a safe environment to prevent patient from falls or injury if patient is confused or combative.

PATIENT TEACHING: 1. Educate patient/family to prevent recurrence of hypoglycemia.

APPROVAL:

Emergency Department Standards Committee
Nursing Standards Committee
Emergency Department Manager & Medical Director

EFFECTIVE DATE: 8/93

REVISION DATES: 9/96, 10/99, 9/05, 9/08

REVIEW DATE: 2/06