

EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY PREHOSPITAL PROTOCOLS

Effective: July 1, 2015

Reviewed: July, 2017

Revised: July, 2019

Scope: BLS/ALS- Adult/Pediatric



EMS Agency Medical Director

HYPERGLYCEMIA

ADULT

BLS TREATMENT

ABCs / ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE - administer oxygen at appropriate flow rate. Be prepared to support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts.

PROTOCOL PROCEDURE: *Hyperglycemia is defined as a blood glucose level at or above 250 mg/dL. Flow of protocol presumes that patient is exhibiting symptoms related to high blood glucose levels (i.e., ALOC, malaise, hypotension, dehydration, polydipsia, muscle cramps, nausea, abdominal pain, tachypnea). Consider other causes: shock, toxic exposure, insulin shock, seizure, or head trauma. If patient is in distress, immediate, rapid transport is preferred with treatment performed en route.*

ALS TREATMENT

BLOOD SAMPLE/GLUCOSE LEVEL ASSESSMENT - obtain blood sample via finger stick or venipuncture. Confirm test results with second glucose check with blood from a different site (and different meter, if available).

NORMAL SALINE – establish IV/IO. Give a 1000 mL bolus. May repeat once. Contact Base Station for additional boluses.

ETCO₂ – Consider monitoring. A reading ≤ 25 mmHg may indicate DKA/HHS.

CONTACT BASE STATION

PEDIATRIC**BLS TREATMENT**

ABCs / ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE - administer oxygen at appropriate flow rate. Be prepared to support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts.

PROTOCOL PROCEDURE: *Hyperglycemia is defined as a blood glucose level at or above 250 mg/dL. Flow of protocol presumes that patient is exhibiting symptoms related to high blood glucose levels (i.e., ALOC, malaise, hypotension, dehydration, polydipsia, muscle cramps, nausea, abdominal pain, tachypnea). Consider other causes: shock, toxic exposure, insulin shock, seizure, or head trauma. If patient is in distress, immediate, rapid transport is preferred with treatment performed en route.*

ALS TREATMENT

BLOOD SAMPLE/GLUCOSE LEVEL ASSESSMENT - obtain blood sample via venipuncture. Confirm test results with second glucose check with blood from a different site (and different meter, if available).

NORMAL SALINE – establish IV/IO. Give 20 mL/kg fluid bolus. May repeat as needed.

ETCO₂ – Consider monitoring. A reading ≤ 25 mmHg may indicate DKA/HHS.

CONTACT BASE STATION