Diabetic Emergencies

The purpose of this protocol is to provide for the assessment and treatment of patients suffering from a diabetic emergency.

MFR Agencies may carry glucometers and oral glucose paste (optional).

1. Follow **1.1 General Pre-Hospital Care Protocol**.
2. Obtain a blood glucose level if the equipment is available.
    a. Awake and with a gag reflex.
        i. If blood glucose is:
            1. below 40mg/dl for patients less than or equal to 60 days old;
            2. below 60mg/dl for adults and pediatric patients over 60 days old;
                a. Administer 15 grams of oral glucose, for infants contact medical direction if IV not available.
                b. Re-evaluate after 10 minutes and if the blood sugar does not improve or only improves slightly repeat the oral glucose or,
                c. Establish an IV and,
                d. Consider administration of IV Dextrose.

            Note: At the provider discretion, if available IV Dextrose may be given without attempting oral glucose first.
                i. Adults IV Dextrose 50% (25g)
                ii. Pediatric refer to MIMEDIC cards
        ii. If the blood glucose is normal follow specific protocol for patient condition.
        iii. For adult if the blood glucose is above 250mg/dl with symptoms of hyperglycemia.
            1. Start an IV and administer **NS** or **LR** IV bolus, up to 1 L.
                a. For patients with renal failure or heart failure, decrease volume to 500 mL.
            2. Monitor EKG.
        iv. For pediatrics if the blood glucose is above 250mg/dl with symptoms of hyperglycemia
            1. Contact medical control
    b. Altered Mental Status
        i. If blood glucose is:
            1. below 40mg/dl for patients less or equal to than 60 days old;
            2. below 60mg/dl for adults and pediatric patients over 60 days old;
                a. Establish an IV
                    i. If unable to establish IV see 7.23 Vascular Access and IV Fluid Therapy.
                b. Administer IV Dextrose 50% (25g) or small amounts of oral glucose if the patient is able to swallow AND 3 months old or older.
                c. For Pediatrics follow MIMEDIC

ii. If blood glucose is normal and the patient's mental status is altered refer to **3.1 Altered Mental Status.**
iii. For adults, if the blood glucose is above 250mg/dl with symptoms of hyperglycemia.
1. Start an IV and administer **NS** or **LR** IV bolus, up to 1 L.
a. For patients with renal failure or heart failure, decrease volume to 500 mL.
2. Monitor EKG.
3. Consider 12-Lead per **7.1 12-Lead ECG Protocol**
iv. For pediatrics if the blood glucose is above 250 mg/dl with symptoms of hyperglycemia
1. Contact medical control

c. If blood glucose level if equipment is not available administer oral glucose if the patient is awake with a gag reflex.
d. If the patient becomes alert and was given dextrose and refuses care follow 7.19 Refusal of Care Adult and Minor.