

# DIABETIC EMERGENCIES/ALTERED LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS

## Hypoglycemia

### BASIC EMT

1. Blood Glucose level should be determined prior to treatment (if available)
2. If level is less than 60 mg/dl AND patient has an intact gag reflex and is responsive.
  - Oral **Glucose** 30 Gm PO. Repeat to desired effect.

### ADVANCED EMT / PARAMEDIC

3. If level is less than 60mg/dl with a decreased level of consciousness.
  - **D<sub>10</sub>W** up to 250ml, titrate to mental status and glucose >80
  - **Glucagon** 1mg IM if difficulty obtaining IV, repeat after fifteen (15) minutes if no result is obtained.

## Hyperglycemia

1. Check finger stick glucose.
  - If glucose is greater than 300 mg/dl and evidence of DKA (altered mental status, elevated respiratory rate) then:
    - obtain IV access and give NS 250 ML BOLUS.
    - IV attempts should not significantly delay transport.