County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department

Division: Emergency Medical Services Agency Effective Date: 08/24/2018

Dextrose 50%

DEXTROSE 50%

Classification: Hyperglycemic Agent

Action: Increases blood sugar

Indications:

1. Blood glucose level < 60mg/dl (< 40mg/dl Newborn) with:

a. Altered LOC

b. Apnea / agonal respirations

c. Non-traumatic focal neurological changes

d. Seizures

Contraindications: For patients with the signs or symptoms of a CVA, do not administer

dextrose unless the Glucoscan/glucose test strip reading is < 60 mg/dl (< 40 mg/dl Newborn). If equipment is not available to test the blood glucose level, base physician approval must precede any administration of dextrose.

Adverse Effects: Metabolic

Pain/burning at injection site

Tissue necrosis Hyperkalemia

Administration: ADULT DOSE

25 Gm (50 ml) slow IVP

Onset: Immediate

Duration: Brief

Notes:

Dextrose 50% in water is a concentrated solution and is very irritating to the venous tissue.
Cannulate as large a vein as possible and aspirate prior to administration.