

SECTION: M-7

PROTOCOL TITLE: ADULT HYPERGLYCEMIA

REVISED: October 15, 2014

GENERAL COMMENTS: Symptomatic hyperglycemia is defined as BG >250mg/dl with signs of severe dehydration, altered LOC, or shock.

BLS SPECIFIC CARE: *See adult General Medical Care Protocol M-1*

ILS SPECIFIC CARE: *See adult General Medical Care Protocol M-1*

- Administer IV fluids aggressively per Protocol M1

ALS SPECIFIC CARE: *See adult General Medical Care Protocol M-1*

- Treat unstable dysrhythmias and vital signs as necessary and as per specific protocols
 - In the presence of DKA, continuous EKG monitoring is essential to detect rhythm disturbances and changes associated with accompanying electrolyte imbalances and acidosis
 - Primary electrolyte disturbance is due to hyper/hypokalemia
 - Can precede malignant dysrhythmias
 - Obtain 12-lead EKG
 - Due to possibility of precipitating/accompanying AMI
 - Re-administer 200-500 ml crystalloid fluid boluses as needed
 - Reassess patient and BG following each bolus

PHYSICIAN PEARLS:

Hyperglycemic emergencies in patients with diabetes can generally be broken into two categories: Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) and Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State (HHS), also known as Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic Non-ketotic Coma (HHNC).

Protocol

M-7

ADULT HYPERGLYCEMIA