

Finger Stick Blood Glucose

Applies to:	
E	EMT
P	Paramedic

Clinical Indications:

1. Suspected diabetic patient
 - a. Signs and symptoms may include, altered mental status, combative or irritable, diaphoresis, seizure, abdominal pain, nausea or vomiting, weakness, dehydration, deep or rapid breathing
 - b. Medical bracelet found, insulin or other diabetic medications found, information received from patient and bystanders
2. Decreased LOC with unknown origin

Contraindications:

1. None

Equipment:

1. PPE
2. Glucometer
3. Alcohol prep pads
4. Blood glucose test strips
5. Lancet & band-aid
6. Sharps container

Procedure:

1. Activate 9-1-1 if not already activated
2. Assess patient to confirm indications are met
3. Insert test strip into glucometer
4. Cleanse finger with alcohol prep
5. Gently massage finger to promote blood flow and pierce with lancet
6. Apply blood sample to blood strip and document results
7. If BGL glucometer reading is < 60 follow treatment guideline for administration of oral glucose.
8. Continue to monitor, reassess and treat patient

Special Considerations:

1. Glucometer manufacturer instructions should be included in all Agency specific training

Treatment Guidelines:

1. Adult: G01, A03, A05, A07, A08, A12, A13, A16, A17, A18, A19, A20, T08
2. Pediatric: PC01, PC04, P03, P04, P05, P06, P07, P09, P12, P13

