



Jackson Hole Fire/EMS Operations Manual

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Title: **Medication Protocol:
Dextrose**

Division: 17

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DEXTROSE (Medication Protocol)

EMT-INTERMEDIATE PROVIDERS

STANDING ORDER

PARAMEDIC PROVIDERS

STANDING ORDER

CLASS: Carbohydrate

**PHARMACOLOGY/
ACTIONS:** The term dextrose is used to describe the six-carbon sugar d-glucose, the principal form of carbohydrate used by the body. Dextrose solution is used in emergency care to treat hypoglycemia and in the management of coma of unknown origin

ONSET/DURATION: Onset: 1 min / Duration: dependant

**USE IN FIELD/
INDICATIONS:**

- Altered mental status of unknown origin
- Hypoglycemia
- Seizures
- Head trauma with decreased mental status if unable to check blood glucose
- Hypothermia if unable to take oral nutrition safely (prolonged field setting)

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- None if documented or suspected hypoglycemia
- Intracranial hemorrhage
- ICP
- Known or suspected CVA in the absence of hypoglycemia

SIDE EFFECTS: Warmth, pain, burning from medication infusion, hyperglycemia, thrombophlebitis

DRUG INTERACTIONS: None significant

ROUTE: IV, IO

DOSAGE:	ADULT	PEDIATRIC (<45 kg)
	Dextrose Infusion D10W Premixed 250mL Bag, Titrate to patient condition and response. May be repeated as needed to maintain normal blood glucose	Dextrose Infusion D10W Premixed 250mL Bag, Titrate to patient condition and response. May be repeated as needed to maintain normal blood glucose

PREGNANCY SAFETY: Category C – give only if potential benefits justifies risk to fetus

COMMENTS: Extravasation may cause tissue necrosis; use large vein and aspirate occasionally to ensure route patency.
Draw blood sample and check BGL prior to administration if possible.
 Large bore IV catheter is preferred. Larger than 18 g if possible.