INDICATION:
- Suspected hypoglycemia
- Altered mental status
- Known diabetic with confusion, weakness, tachycardia, or diaphoresis

CONTRAINDICATIONS:
- Avoid skin puncture if possible skin infection or rash present at a potential site

EQUIPMENT:
- Glucometer, FDA approved with matching test strips
- Cleaning wipes (such as alcohol swabs)
- Sterile lancets
- Small bandage (such as Band-Aid)
- Sharps container and disposal for blood contaminated material

PROCEDURE:
1. Use appropriate PPE – gloves as minimum
2. Clean site at side of fingertip pad with cleaning wipe and allow to air dry
3. Using a lancet (mechanical or manual), prick cleaned site and allow drop of blood to form
4. Wipe away first drop of blood with sterile cleaning wipe and allow second blood drop to form
5. Insert test strip into glucometer per manufacturer’s instructions; assure code on glucometer LED screen matches the test strip code (printed on test strip container)
6. Apply second blood drop to test strip
7. Clean and cover skin puncture site with small bandage or Band-Aid
8. When blood glucose value is displayed on glucometer screen, document value displayed and time
9. Dispose of lancet in sharps container and any blood contaminated material in appropriate hazardous waste container

NOTES:
1. Do not obtain blood sample from bleeding wounds should any exist.
2. Use manufacturer’s guidelines for calibration and cleaning of glucometer.
3. Assure test strips are stored in an airtight container and are not expired.

Approved:

Review Date:
Final Date for Implementation: 10/01/2017
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