INDICATION:

Dextrose 10% (D10) is indicated for symptomatic or suspected hypoglycemic patients (symptoms of hypoglycemia include weakness, irritability, tachycardia, diaphoresis, tremors, seizures, altered mental status or loss of consciousness).

In adults/adolescents, an exact cutoff value for hypoglycemia has not been established because age and health cause variation in the effects of lower blood glucose levels. A blood glucose of 60 or less should be treated; if hypoglycemia is suspected and blood glucose is in the range of 60 to 80, treatment based on field impression is appropriate.

PROCEDURE:

1. Establish venous access.

2. D10 is available in premixed IV bags (usually 250 mL).
   - D10 should be initially administered at a wide-open rate, but may be titrated to the patient’s mental status. When the patient is at their baseline mental status, the D10 infusion rate should be decreased to a keep open rate.
   - For pediatric administration, D10 can be given via IVPB or IVP. If given IVPB, calculate the proper dose and discard excess fluid from the bag leaving the only the dose to be given. If given via IVP (consider if 100mL or less), withdraw the proper amount into a syringe from a bag of D10 solution and give slowly.

3. If other medications need to be given:
   - Give them through a distal port if available, then flush
   - If no port is available, stop D10 drip, remove it from the saline lock and keep the connector site sterile, give the medication, flush with normal saline and restart the D10.

4. If the D10 infusion is completed during transport, remove it from the saline lock and flush the lock with saline.