

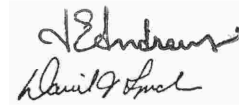
## MEMORANDUM

TO: All Fresno/Kings/Madera/Tulare EMS Providers, Hospitals, and Interested Parties

FROM: Jim Andrews, M.D., EMS Medical Director  
Daniel J. Lynch, Director

DATE: July 31, 2019

SUBJECT: Dextrose 50% (D50) Shortage



On June 4, 2019, the EMS Agency released Special Memorandum number 04-2019 to address the current Dextrose 50% (D50) shortage. The Special Memo encouraged the use of oral glucose, as well as Glucagon if D50 has been exhausted from the inventory. Because the shortage of D50 continues to be an issue, the EMS Agency is allowing the use of D10. The administration procedure for this medication is listed below.

In the event that a provider agency has exhausted their supply of Dextrose 50% (D50), the EMS Agency is allowing EMS personnel to substitute Dextrose 10% (D10) in 250 mL via IV in place of 25 g of Dextrose 50% (D50) IV push. The administration of Dextrose 10% is allowed for use in the following protocols.

EMS Policy #530.18 – Paramedic Treatment Protocols – Altered Mental Status, Possible Stroke, and Syncope

EMS Policy #530.19 – Paramedic Treatment Protocols – Seizures

Adults: To administer Dextrose 10% (D10), attach a 250 mL bag of D10 to a macro drip set and run wide open.  
May repeat in 5 minutes if altered mental status persists and repeat finger stick is less than 80 mg/dL.

Pediatrics: To administer Dextrose 10% (D10), attach a 250 mL bag of D10 to a macro drip set and administer 0.5 g/kg (5 mL/kg) to a maximum of 25 g (250 mL).  
To administer smaller doses to patients <50 kg, attach a 60 mL syringe and use the pull/push method to administer the appropriate volume of medication.  
May repeat in 5 minutes if altered mental status persists and repeat finger stick is less than 80 mg/dL.

Please contact Mato Parker, EMS Coordinator at (559) 600-3387 if you have any questions.

MKP:rb