



Monroe Livingston Region Program Agency


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To: All Providers and Agencies

From: Jeremy T. Cushman, MD, MS, EMT-P 
Regional Medical Director

Date: June 23, 2014

Re: Advisory 14-09: Blood Glucometry

At the most recent State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee meeting, the definition of hypoglycemia was changed in the BLS protocol. After discussion, the numerical value for defined hypoglycemia was changed to 60 mg/dl across all age groups and across the entire state. This affects our protocols immediately.

The group also discussed that adult diabetics may have symptomatic hypoglycemia at blood glucose levels of between 60 and 100. An adult patient with a history of diabetes presenting with diaphoresis or altered mental status, and who is suspected of being clinically hypoglycemic may be treated based on an advanced provider's clinical suspicion. If clinically you believe that the patient may have symptomatic hypoglycemia with a blood sugar between 60 and 100, the appropriate treatment would be small doses of dextrose ideally orally, but if required, small doses of D50; watch for a response, and recheck a blood sugar. In short, please continue to treat the patient, not the number.

Remember, that patients may present with signs of stroke from hypoglycemia, but elevated glucose levels are also dangerous for patients with neurological disorders, and thus careful use of dextrose containing solutions in individuals with a blood glucose greater than 60 should be carefully weighed against potential harm.

The regional protocols will be updated as soon as feasible.

With any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.