

**Symptoms of HYPOglycemia**

**Mild:**

- Diaphoretic
- Tachycardia
- Blurred Vision
- Sudden Weakness
- Shaking

**Moderate:**

- Dizziness
- Confusion
- Numbness of the lips
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Difficulty Swallowing

**Severe:** (May be combined with mild or moderate)

- Combative
- Seizures
- Loss of Consciousness

**HYPOglycemia Guidelines**

**SYMPTOMATIC PATIENT ABLE TO SWALLOW**

Blood Glucose Level	Treatment	Follow Up
If blood glucose is less than 70 mg/dL and patient is symptomatic	Give 6 oz. of juice or 1 tube (15 gms) of glucose gel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recheck blood glucose in 15 – 20 minutes</li> <li>• Repeat treatment until blood glucose greater than 100 mg/dL</li> <li>• Contact provider if blood glucose is less than 70 mg/dL for two consecutive measurements and patient is symptomatic.</li> </ul>

**SYMPTOMATIC PATIENT UNABLE TO SWALLOW/NPO WITH IV ACCESS**

Blood Glucose Level	Treatment	Follow Up
If blood glucose is less than 70 mg/dL and patient is symptomatic and cannot swallow OR if patient has altered mental status	Dextrose 50% as ordered IV*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recheck blood glucose in 15 – 20 minutes</li> <li>• Repeat treatment until blood glucose greater than 100 mg/dL</li> <li>• Contact provider if blood glucose is less than 70 mg/dL for two consecutive measurements and patient is symptomatic</li> </ul>

**SYMPTOMATIC PATIENT UNABLE TO SWALLOW/NPO WITHOUT IV ACCESS**

If blood glucose is less than 70 mg/dL and patient is symptomatic and cannot swallow OR if patient has altered mental status	Glucagon as ordered IM or Subcut*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contact physician for further orders</li><li>• Establish IV access</li><li>• Recheck blood glucose every 15 – 20 minutes</li></ul> <p><b>Use aspiration precautions as glucagon may cause nausea and vomiting</b></p>
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\* Dextrose and glucagon administration must be documented on the MAR

Source: UMC Pharmacy

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