

Kittitas County Prehospital EMS Protocols

SUBJECT: DIABETES MELLITUS

Suspected Hyperglycemia/Ketoacidosis

- A. Establish and maintain airway.
- B. Administer O₂ @ 12-15 lpm per non-rebreather mask.
- C. Establish cardiac monitor.
- D. Establish peripheral IV access with **Isotonic Crystalloid** @ rate dependent on clinical findings.

Suspected Hypoglycemia

- A. If good airway and patient conscious, administer some type of sugar solution, PO.
- B. Establish Peripheral IV access with Normal Saline @ TKO.
- C. Determine blood sugar using chemical strip.
- D. Administer **D50, 25 gms**, IV bolus (administer **thiamine** if suspected alcohol abuse). IV should be wide open during administration of **D50**.
- E. If pediatric patient, administer **D25, 0.5 gms/kg.**
- F. If unable to establish peripheral IV, administer **glucagon, 1.0 unit, IM.**
- G. Patient may have option of not being transported if;
 - patient has history of diabetes with ongoing medical management
 - patient is alert and oriented x 3
 - patient is observed eating a sandwich
 - adult is present
 - glucose reading appropriate/normal for patient
 - clinical situation indicates further care is not needed