	Department Name **Address**	**BLS**	**EMT**
		Revision #	
		Implementation Date	
Protocol	**4.2.24 Diabetic Emergencies - Pediatric**	**Last Reviewed/Update Date**	
Author / Owner		**Medical Director**	

Glucose, a form of sugar, is the body's basic source of energy. An abnormal blood sugar level has an effect on all organs including the heart and the brain. Returning to normal perfusion as quickly as possible is the ultimate goal.

Conscious patient – low blood sugar
Children with diabetes are at risk for a low blood sugar emergency as their activity levels may exhaust blood sugar levels.

1. Baseline care standards.

2. Administer high flow oxygen.

3. Obtain blood glucose level. If blood glucose is < 60mg/dl then;

4. If the patient is symptomatic and is able to swallow, administer oral glucose gel between the cheek and the gum, even if not able to obtain a glucose level.

5. If the patient is wearing an insulin pump, turn it off.
    a. Administration of oral glucose should not be delayed to turn off the pump.

6. The child should be transported in the recovery position.

7. When mental status has returned to normal, the patient should be strongly encouraged to eat a carbohydrate snack.

Conscious patient – high blood sugar
It is uncommon for an ambulance to be dispatched for a child with a high blood sugar as most parents would have sought care for their child previously, as this is a slow onset illness. However, it is possible in a new onset of juvenile diabetes or in the case of a child with a history of diabetes who has been ill for a few days.

1. Baseline care standards.

2. Administer high flow oxygen.

3. Obtain blood glucose level.
4. If the patient is wearing an insulin pump, leave it on.
5. Transport in the recovery position.
6. If patient is altered and you are unable to determine by blood sample or history, treat as low.

Unconscious Patient
Patients that are unconscious should **never** have anything by mouth.

1. Baseline care standards.
2. Administer high flow oxygen.
3. Obtain blood glucose level.
4. If the patient is wearing an insulin pump, turn it off.
5. Transport in the recovery position.
6. Monitor airway and vital signs closely.

_____ _____
Medical Director's Signature *Date*