

## CENTRAL CARE POLICY INSULIN SHOCK-DIABETIC COMA

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<u>INSULIN SHOCK-DIABETIC COMA</u>
<b>ANNUAL REVIEW MONTH:</b>	<u>June</u>
<b>RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW:</b>	<u>Director of Central Care</u>
<b>LAST REVISION DATE:</b>	<u>June 2009</u>

**PURPOSE:** To intervene and recognize diabetic emergencies.

**PROCEDURE:**

**A. Insulin shock (hypoglycemia):**

1. Hypoglycemia is an abnormally low amount glucose in the blood. This occurs as a result of too much insulin, not enough food (delayed or missed meals) and/ or unusual vigorous activity.
2. The signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia are:
  - a. Nervousness, weakness, sweating, trembling.
  - b. Faintness, hunger pangs in epigastric region.
  - c. Headache, numbness, or tingling of tongue or lips.
  - d. High pulse rate.
  - e. Confusion, aggressive, or erratic behavior, change in mood.
  - f. Double vision.
  - g. Pallor, chilling sensation.
3. Notify physician/ or call **911**
4. Have available some form of sugar to give orally if consumer is conscious.  
Orange juice, candy, or pack of sugar may be used for this measure.
5. If consumer is unconscious, check vital signs and obtain glucometer blood sugar.
6. Record symptoms and treatment (s) carried out.

**B. Diabetic coma.**

1. Diabetic coma occurs as a result of too little insulin, too much food, Infectious, G.I. upset.
2. Signs and symptoms of a diabetic coma are:
  - a. Flushed face, rapid pulse and respirations.
  - b. Dry skin and acetone breath.
  - c. Nausea, vomiting, headache, and abdominal pain.
  - d. Thirst, shortness of breath and coma.
3. Notify physician/ or call **911**
4. Monitor client's vital signs.
5. Monitor blood sugar as ordered.
6. Give medications as ordered by physician.

**C. Chart:** Time

- Symptoms
- Reaction of consumer
- Treatment (s) administered
- Reaction of consumer to treatment (s)

**D. Notifications:**

- Notify the Team Leader or designee.
- Physician if necessary.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **TITLE:** Director of Central Care **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Taylor