NORTH COAST EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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Subject: Treatment Guidelines – BLS

Oral Glucose Protocol

Associated Policies:

I. Indications

- A. Altered patient with intact gag reflex.
- B. Known or suspected history of diabetes.
- C. Signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia (insulin shock):
 - 1. Sudden onset.
 - 2. Pale/sweaty skin.
 - 3. May complain of hunger.
- D. ETA of ALS personnel or arrival at emergency department exceeds fifteen (15) minutes.

II. Contraindications

- A. Patient is unconscious.
- B. Patient unable to swallow on command.

III. Procedure

- A. Administer oxygen per Oxygen Policy.
- B. After patient has demonstrated ability to swallow on command administer one (1) tube of commercially prepared glucose paste.
- C. If some improvement but patient remains altered, consider repeating oral glucose.

IV. Precaution

- A. If patient's level of consciousness becomes compromised during or after procedure, place in left lateral decubitus position.
- B. Suction, as needed, and be prepared for vomiting.

Approved as to Form:

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