



Altered Mental Status



Medical (Pediatric)

CRITERIA

Any alteration in level of consciousness

PROTOCOL

EMR	Follow <i>General – Universal Patient Care/Initial Patient Contact Protocol</i> .	EMR
EMT	Obtain blood glucose level.	EMT
<u>Suspected Narcotic Overdose</u>		
EMT	Administer <i>Naloxone (Narcan) 2mg (2 mL) Naloxone with 3 mL inhalation saline in a nebulizer chamber</i> . Titrate to effect.	EMT
[A]	Administer <i>Naloxone (Narcan) 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO, IN or IM</i> .	[A]
<u>Hypoglycemia</u>		
EMT	If consciousness is altered, blood sugar level less than 60 mg/dL in infants and children and patient can protect airway, administer <i>oral glucose</i> .	EMT
A	Glucometer reading less than 40 mg/dL: Newborn/Neonate: administer <i>D₁₀ 5 mL/kg IV/IO push (dilute D₅₀ with Normal Saline 1:4 to create D₁₀)</i> .	A
A	Glucometer reading less than 60 mg/dL: Patient less than 2 years old: administer <i>D₂₅ 2 mL/kg IV/IO push</i> , Patient over 2 years old: administer <i>D₅₀ 1 mL/kg IV/IO push</i> .	A
A	Consider <i>Glucagon 0.1 mg/kg IN/IM up to a maximum dose of 1 mg if no IV/IO access OR if unable to administer oral glucose</i> .	A
<u>Hyperglycemia</u>		
A	If Blood Glucose Level greater than 250 mg/dL administer <i>0.9% Normal Saline 20 mL/kg fluid bolus</i> .	A
<u>Suspected Hypovolemia</u>		
[A]	<i>0.9% Normal Saline 20 mL/kg fluid bolus</i> , continuously reassessing need for further fluid administration.	[A]

PEARLS

- Dilute *D₅₀* with Normal Saline 1:4 to create *D₁₀*, dilute *D₅₀* with Normal Saline 1:1 to create *D₂₅*
- Glucometer reading of less than 60 mg/dL is indicative of hypoglycemia
- Signs and symptoms of shock are indicative of hypovolemia

Suspected Narcotic Overdose:

Patient exhibits one or more of the following signs:

- Pinpoint pupils
- Bradypnea (respiration less than 12)
- Recent history of drug abuse by parent/caretaker
- Evidence on scene of drug abuse



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 **Common causes of altered level of consciousness include but are not limited to:**

- A. Alcohol
- E. Epilepsy (see *Seizure*)
- I. Infection
- O. Overdose (see *Overdose & Poisons*)
- U. Uremia (kidney impairment)
- T. Trauma (see *Trauma*)
- I. Insulin (hypoglycemia) or increased cranial pressure
- P. Psychiatric (see *Behavioral Emergencies*)
- S. Shock, stroke (see corresponding protocol)