

## H. Dextrose-Oral (Oral Glucose)

- I. Classification
  - Hyperglycemic agent (carbohydrate)
- II. Actions
  - Immediate source of glucose for cellular metabolism
- III. Indications
  - Conscious patient who has signs/symptoms of hypoglycemia
- IV. Contraindications
  - Patients with an altered level of consciousness
  - Patients complaining of nausea
- V. Adverse Effects
  - A. Gastrointestinal
    - Vomiting**
  - B. Respiratory
    - Aspiration
- VI. Administration
  - Paste/Gel 15 Gram tube, liquid paste, PO
- VII. Onset
  - Within minutes
- VIII. Duration
  - Depends on the degree and cause of hypoglycemia
- IX. Precautions
  - There is a risk of vomiting and aspiration if a decrease in consciousness occurs. **Do not administer oral glucose if there is a potential for an altered level of consciousness.** Administer glucose solution only if the patient is able to hold the bottle and drink without assistance.
- X. Note
  - The entire amount does not need to be administered if the patient's condition improves.