



Blood Glucose Reporting & Insulin Administration

Personnel Involved	Nursing Team Members – CA's, LVN's and RN's Pharmacists Physicians
Issue & Patient Safety Risk	The process of administration of insulin based on blood glucose results is a high risk process that is dependent on clear and accurate communication of results as well as independent verification of insulin dosage . Insulin is a high alert medication that can cause serious harm and even death if administered improperly. Caregivers prescribing and administering insulin must take care to recognize that they are dealing with a high risk situation and consider the consequences of potential errors ("preoccupation with failure") in order to prevent those errors from occurring.
Immediate Intervention: (Reinforces existing policy)	<p>1. When blood glucose testing is performed, the result of the test must be entered into the patient's medical record by the person performing the testing. Prior to insulin preparation, the licensed caregiver will read the blood glucose results in the patient's medical record and determine the appropriate insulin dosage.</p> <p>Following this process is particularly important when insulin is to be administered by a person other than the person who performed the blood glucose testing. Verbal communication is NOT acceptable as the sole means for communicating these results between caregivers.</p> <p>2. When drawing from a vial, insulin must only be drawn using an insulin syringe. (NOTE: Do not draw insulin from insulin pens) Care should be taken to avoid using a TB syringe, which may appear similar in packaging. Also, when administering insulin via IV push, the insulin first must be measured using an insulin syringe and then transferred to a 1mL syringe for injection into the IV port.</p> <p>3. Prior to administration, an active double check with another licensed care team member is required. The licensed care team member who is performing the double check must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) review the glucose result and validate the order, including a check to ensure that the order is for the right patient; and b) review the actual medication that has been prepared for administration to verify the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the correct syringe has been used, or the correct insulin pen has been selected, 2) the type of insulin drawn or pen selected matches the type of insulin ordered, 3) the dosage of insulin matches the order.

POST on All Nursing Units where Insulin is administered – No expiration date