Altered Mental Status

The purpose of this protocol is to provide for the assessment and treatment of patients with altered mental status. Consideration should be given to treatable and reversible causes due to hypoglycemia, opioid overdose or unknown etiology.

1. Follow General Pre-hospital Care Protocol.
2. If patient is not alert or vital signs are unstable:
   a. Evaluate and maintain airway, provide oxygenation and support ventilations as needed per Emergency Airway Procedure.
   b. If no suspected spinal injury, place the patient in recovery position.
3. If respiratory depression is present due to suspected opioid overdose, administer Naloxone per Naloxone Administration Procedure.
4. Restrain patient if necessary, refer to Patient Restraint Procedure.
5. For a known diabetic, consider small amounts of oral glucose if unable to measure blood glucose level.
6. If the patient is demonstrating signs of hypoglycemia, measure blood glucose level.
   a. If less than 60 mg/dL, administer oral glucose.

MCA Approval of Blood Glucose Testing by specific MFR Agencies
(Provide participating agency list to BETP)

☑ YES ☐ NO

7. If glucose is less than 60 mg/dL, and patient is demonstrating signs of hypoglycemia:
   a. Administer IV Dextrose 25 gm.
   b. Per MCA selection, if unable to start IV, when IV Dextrose is indicated, administer Glucagon.

Glucagon 1mg IM

☒ Included ☐ Not Included

8. Recheck the blood glucose 10 minutes after glucose/Glucagon administration (Per MCA selection).
9. Contact medical control.
Follow General Prehospital Care Protocol

Restrain patient, if necessary. Refer to Patient Restraint Procedure
Evaluate and maintain airway, provide oxygenation, and support ventilations as needed per Emergency Airway Procedure.
If respiratory depression/suspected opioid overdose, refer to Naloxone Administration Procedure.

If no suspected trauma, place patient in the recovery position

MCA Approval of Blood Glucose Testing by Specific MFR Agencies
Provide Agency List to BETP

- Yes
- No

Signs of Hypoglycemia?
Check Blood Glucose
Glucose < 60 mg/DL?
Administer Oral Glucose

Establish Vascular Access
Glucose < 60 mg/DL?
Administer Dextrose 25 g IV
No Access?
Glucagon 1 mg IM
- Included
- Not Included
Administer Glucagon 1 mg IM
Recheck Blood Glucose 10 minutes after administration

Contact Medical Control