

# **KCH ED OBSERVATION UNIT:**

## **Metabolic Abnormality: Clinical Guidelines**

### **HYPOGLYCEMIA**

#### **CRITERIA:**

##### **Inclusion**

- Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes
- Hypoglycemia requiring repeated finger stick monitoring
- Readily treatable cause if present

##### **Exclusion**

- Unstable or significantly abnormal vital signs (hypotension, fever)
- Altered mental status despite glucose administration
- Intentional overdoses of hypoglycemic
- Blood sugar < 50 despite two bolus 50%glucose
- Requirement of D10 drip to maintain euglycemia
- Serious precipitating cause
- Any factor that will preclude discharge within 48hours
- Any other need for inpatient admission

#### **INTERVENTIONS:**

- Serial exams every 4-6 hours
- Serial vital signs every 4 hours
- Serial finger sticks
- Dextrose administration
- Intravenous fluids administration
- Electrolyte monitoring and administration as indicated
- **Diet**
- Diabetic counseling as indicated

#### **DISPOSITION:**

##### **Home:**

- Stable vital signs
- Blood sugars over 100mg/dL > 4 hours
- Tolerating oral intake
- Capable adult supervision
- Precipitating factor (s) addressed if present
- Adequate follow up plan

##### **Admission:**

- Unstable vital signs (hypotension, fever)
- Deterioration of clinical status
- Persistent neurological deficits
- Blood sugars < 80mg
- Another acute process becomes apparent
- Does not meet discharge criteria after observation period

***Please note additional orders, such as patient's home medications can be ordered for standing administration.***