

Medication: D ₅₀ W	PDN: 6915.02	Last Updated: June 20, 2013	PMD: Andrew Travers*	PDC: Steven Carrigan*	Page 1 of 2
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D₅₀W

1.0 Classification

- Carbohydrate

2.0 Mechanism of Action

- Increases blood glucose

3.0 Indications

- Patients with signs of hypoglycemia and a blood glucose level less than 4.0 mmol/L who are unable to take oral glucose

4.0 Contraindications

- None

5.0 Precautions

- Extravasation of D₅₀W may lead to tissue necrosis and can be catastrophic, ensure the IV line is patent prior to dextrose administration

6.0 Route

- May be given IV/IO

7.0 Dosage

Adult

- 25 g (50 mL) of dextrose
- A second dose may be given if symptoms do not resolve and glucometer reading remains less than 4.0 mmol/L

Pediatric

- 0.5 g/kg (2 mL/kg) of a 25% solution (D₂₅)
- A second dose may be given if symptoms do not resolve and glucometer reading remains less than 4.0 mmol/L
- Maximum total dose of 25 g

8.0 Supplied

- 25 g in 50 mL preloaded syringe

9.0 May Be Given By

- PCP/ICP/ACP/CCP

10.0 Adverse effects

- Hyperglycemia

11.0 Special notes

To make a D₂₅ solution from D₅₀: Dispose of 25 mL of the D₅₀ solution from the preloaded syringe and replace with 25 mL of normal saline.

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- Localized irritation can occur when a small vein is used; attempt to administer through an IV located in a larger vein
- 25 g of D₅₀W should increase the blood sugar by approximately 5-6 mmol/L
- Pregnancy category C [if the patient will benefit from a Category C drug, it is generally used]

12.0 References

- Altered Level of Consciousness Clinical Practice Guideline
- Compendium of Pharmaceuticals and Specialties (CPS)

*Electronically Signed
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