

COMA/ ALTERED LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS

ALWAYS USE STANDARD PRECAUTIONS

INDICATION

GCS < 15, etiology unclear (consider AEIOU TIPS); sudden onset of weakness, paralysis, confusion, speech disturbances, headache

TREATMENT

- ALS RMC
- Position patient with head elevated 30 degrees or left lateral recumbent if vomiting
- If BG < 60 or immeasurable:
 - **Dextrose 10% 25GM/250ml:**
 - 125 ml bolus IV/IO over 10 minutes; recheck BG and repeat as needed
- If BG < 60 or immeasurable and unable to start IV:
 - **Glucagon 1 mg IM**
- Narcotic overdose:
 - **Narcan 0.4-4.0 mg/kg, IV/IO/IM/IN**
 - **For IN administration:** 2 mg (1 mg per nostril)
 - If respiratory depression persists, repeat as necessary. May need multiple doses.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

- Consider indication for C-spine precautions; consider diabetes-related complications
- If CVA suspected, see CVA/Stroke Policy N 4

DOCUMENTATION- ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

- Past medical history (i.e., seizures, diabetes)
- Blood glucose level
- Dosage of medications, times administered
- Narcan administration by first responder, if known

RELATED POLICIES/ PROCEDURES

- Intranasal Medications Midazolam(Versed) and Narcan Procedure ALS PR 7
- CVA / Stroke Policy N4