QUANTITATIVE BEDSIDE GLUCOSE ANALYSIS

Bedside glucose analysis is performed under laboratory direction to meet the need for immediate capillary blood glucose levels. The result is a quantitative value within a set range. Values less than 50 mg/dl or greater than 500 mg/dl must be confirmed by a laboratory test. For nursery, values less than 45 and greater than 150 mg/dl the MD will be notified.

Personnel trained and approved to perform bedside glucose testing are: registered nurses (RN), licensed practical nurses, EMT-IV, paramedics, Patient Care Techs, Nursing Assistants, Clinical Record Specialists, Rehab and ED Techs, ED Specialty Techs, Maternal Child Assistants, Respiratory Therapist, Exercise Physiologist, Nurse Residents, Graduate Nurses, Nurse Interns, Graduate Practical Nurses, Patient Care Associates and certified medical assistants.

The training for bedside glucose and automatic finger sticking devices will be conducted by the Diabetes Education Coordinator, Nurse Education, or Laboratory personnel under the direction of the Medical Director of the laboratory. The initial training will consist of a formal training session to include performance of quality control, patient testing, and a written test on the policy for bedside glucose. The list of personnel who have been trained will be kept in the laboratory, nurse education office, and will be available to the Directors of patient care units.

Approved personnel who have been trained in the procedure for bedside glucose testing will participate in yearly Proficiency testing where their technique will be observed by a trained observer. At that time they will attend a short in-service to review policy and procedure. A written test will be given on bedside glucose policy and procedure. Records of attendance and passing grades will also be kept in the Laboratory and the Nurse Education office.

Nurses who contract to work in this hospital through an agency may perform bedside glucose testing only if they attend the in-service and participate in the yearly Proficiency testing as described above.

Please refer to the Nursing Policies and Procedures Manual for further instructions.