



Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency

Serving San Bernardino, Inyo, and Mono Counties

Tom Lynch, EMS Administrator

Reza Vaezazizi, MD, Medical Director

DATE: November 24, 2014

TO: EMS Providers - ALS, LALS, BLS, EMS Aircraft
Hospital ED Directors, Nurse Managers, and PLNs

FROM: Reza Vaezazizi, MD
Medical Director 

SUBJECT: TRANSITION TO DEXTROSE 10% WATER

The Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) recommended that EMS providers transition from the various concentrations of Dextrose to Dextrose 10% Water (D10W) throughout the ICEMA region. D10W will provide the same amount of Dextrose and is safer, easier to use, reduces the rebound effect of higher concentrations, and will cause less tissue necrosis if the IV infiltrates.

ICEMA will allow a transition period to begin December 1, 2014, through June 1, 2015. This will allow EMS providers to use as much of their current supplies of Dextrose in other concentrations prior to the transition date. During the transition period, EMS providers may continue to carry multiple concentrations of Dextrose so long as the minimum amount of Dextrose in all concentrations is 50 grams. For the safety of patients and to reduce the risk of medication errors, ICEMA is requiring the following:

- EMS providers must complete transition to Dextrose 10% Water by June 1, 2015.
- EMS providers must notify ICEMA when they have completed the transition to Dextrose 10%.
- EMS providers must provide sufficient training to their personnel on ICEMA Reference #7040 - Medication Standard Orders and all treatment protocols that relate to Dextrose.
- EMS Providers must include Dextrose usage as part of each EMS provider's QI process.

If you have any questions, please contact Sherri Shimshy, RN, EMS Nurse Specialist, at (909) 388-5816 or via e-mail at Sherri.Shimshy@cao.sbcounty.gov.

RV/SS/jlm

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