

KNOW THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF HYPOGLYCEMIA

70	
60	
50	
40	
30	
20	
10	
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MILD: BELOW 70 MG/DL

Hunger Nervousness Shaking Sweating Cold clammy skin Headache Pounding heartbeat

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MODERATE: BELOW 55 MG/DL

Dizziness Sleepiness Weakness Irritability Trouble speaking Confusion

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SEVERE: BELOW 40 MG/DL

Seizures Convulsions Loss of consciousness Coma

KNOW HOW TO LOWER YOUR RISK FOR SEVERE HYPOGLYCEMIA



Take action right away when you first have symptoms



KNOW HOW TO BE PREPARED FOR HYPOGLYCEMIA



Keep your blood glucose monitor with you at all times.



Make sure family members, friends, and caregivers know how to use your emergency glucagon kit.



Carry some type of fast-acting carbohydrate (sugar) like glucose tablets or hard candy with you at all times.



Have a glucagon kit on hand.



Wear a diabetes medical identification bracelet or necklace.



Check your blood glucose (sugar) before driving any vehicle or operating machinery.



Check your

blood

glucose level.

Stay calm.

If your blood glucose is less than 70 mg/dL, eat 15 grams of fast-acting carbohydrate (4 glucose tablets, 5-6 pieces of hard candy, 6 oz. of regular soda).

WAIT 15 MINUTES, THEN CHECK YOUR BLOOD **GLUCOSE LEVEL AGAIN.**

IF YOUR BLOOD GLUCOSE IS STILL LOW, continue to treat and call 911. Once your blood glucose reaches 70 mg/ dL or higher, eat a meal or snack.

KNOW HOW TO TAKE ACTION IF YOU ARE A FAMILY MEMBER, FRIEND, **OR CAREGIVER AND NOTICE SIGNS OF HYPOGLYCEMIA**

Stay calm.

Have the person check their blood glucose level.

Offer the person some type of fast-acting sugar (4 glucose tablets, 5-6 pieces of hard candy, 6 oz. of regular soda).



HAVE THE PERSON CHECK THEIR BLOOD **GLUCOSE LEVEL AGAIN AFTER 15 MINUTES.**

IF IT IS ABOVE 70 MG/DL, have the person eat a snack or meal.

IF IT IS STILL BELOW 70 MG/DL, continue to treat as outlined above and call 911.

Be alert for confusion or disorientation. This may mean that the blood glucose level is dropping to a severe level.

KNOW HOW TO TAKE ACTION

IF YOU ARE A FAMILY MEMBER, FRIEND, OR **CAREGIVER AND FIND THE PERSON UNCONSCIOUS**



Give the person a nasal spray or injection of glucagon.



Watch for improvement within 5 to 15 minutes.



Have the person eat some carbohydrates as soon as they are able.

Call 911 if glucagon is not available, you don't know how to use it, or the person doesn't awaken fully after giving glucagon.



Patients Have Questions. We Have Answers.

Editors: Leonor Corsino, MD, MHS; Deena Adimoolam, MD The Endocrine Society is your trusted source for endocrine patient education. Our free resources are available at endocrine.org/patient-engagement

