

Policy #:	807 (PLH-807-04)	Effective Date:	9/30/2004	Reviewed Date:	2/4/2011
Subject:	QUANTITATIVE BEDSIDE GLUCOSE ANALYSIS				
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QUANTITATIVE BEDSIDE GLUCOSE ANALYSIS

Bedside glucose analysis is performed by registered nurses 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 mg/dl or greater than 150 mg/dl the MD will be notified.

Bedside blood glucose testing will be performed only by Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses II, Licensed Practical Nurses III, EMT-IV and paramedics who have received training in the use of the blood glucose system and automatic finger sticking device.

The training will be coordinated by the Diabetes Education Coordinator, Nurse Education, and Laboratory personnel under the direction of the Medical Director of the laboratory. The initial training will consist of a formal training session to include a return demonstration and a written test on the policy. This will be followed by a six month competency assessment to include the performance of one set of controls and one patient.

A list of RNs, LPN IIs, and LPN IIIs, EMT-IV, and paramedics who have been trained, will be kept in the laboratory, Nurse Education office, and will be available to the Directors of Patient Care Units.

All RNs, LPN IIs, and LPN IIIs, EMT-IVs, and paramedics 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 of bedside blood glucose testing. A written test will be given on policy and procedure. Records of attendance and passing grades will also be kept in the laboratory, and Nurse Education office.

Nurses who contract to work in this hospital through an agency may perform blood 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.