

**FAST RESPONSE SCHOOL OF HEALTHCARE EDUCATION  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN  
EMT: MEDICAL – LEARNING SHEET**



**ADMINISTRATION OF EMT NON-PRESCRIBED MEDICATION**

- OBJECTIVE:** Student will demonstrate the ability to determine whether the use of prescribed medications is appropriate and properly administer the appropriate medication.
- INDICATIONS:** To help administer a patient's medication that may be required to treat a specific medical complaint.
- EQUIPMENT:**
1. Simulated medication
  2. Blood Pressure Cuff
  3. Stethoscope
  4. Patient

**Administration Technique:**

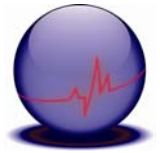
1.	Takes body substance isolation precautions.								
2.	Assesses patient's vital signs								
3.	Selects appropriate medication.								
4.	Assures that medication is indicated for the patient.								
5.	Establishes patient is not allergic to drug.								
6.	Checks medication for expiration date.								
7.	Contacts Medical Direction for Authorization, if administration is not covered in standing orders.								
<b>Specific Medications</b>									
<table><thead><tr><th>Oral Glucose</th><th>Activated Charcoal</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Ensures Patient is alert enough to swallow</td><td>Ensures patient is alert enough to swallow</td></tr><tr><td>Administers entire tube of glucose by placing glucose on a tongue depressor and inserting it between the cheek and gum or by allowing the patient to squeeze the tube into his or her mouth between cheek and gum.</td><td>Mixes one gram of activated charcoal per kilogram of body weight into water or other liquid if not pre-mixed. (1gm/kg)</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Have patient drink activated charcoal suspension.</td></tr></tbody></table>		Oral Glucose	Activated Charcoal	Ensures Patient is alert enough to swallow	Ensures patient is alert enough to swallow	Administers entire tube of glucose by placing glucose on a tongue depressor and inserting it between the cheek and gum or by allowing the patient to squeeze the tube into his or her mouth between cheek and gum.	Mixes one gram of activated charcoal per kilogram of body weight into water or other liquid if not pre-mixed. (1gm/kg)		Have patient drink activated charcoal suspension.
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	Have patient drink activated charcoal suspension.								
8.	Reassesses patient for desired effect and possible side effects.								

**CRITICAL CRITERIA**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Did not take or verbalize BSI</li><li>• Administered medication without obtaining Medical Direction</li><li>• Exceeded medications maximum dose</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administered medication in a way or dosage different then what was ordered by medical direction</li><li>• Failure to manage the patient as a competent EMT</li></ul>
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**ORAL GLUCOSE**

**MEDICATION NAME:**

Oral Glucose is the Generic Name. Two of the trade names of oral glucose are:

- Glucose
- Insta-Glucose

**INDICATIONS:**

Oral glucose should be administered to a patient who meets ALL three of the following criteria:

- An altered mental status
- A history of diabetes controlled by medication or a blood glucose level less than 60 mg/dl
- The ability to swallow the medication

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

Oral glucose should not be administered to a patient who:

- Is either unresponsive or unable to swallow the medication
- Has a confirmed blood glucose level greater than 60 mg/dl

**MEDICATION FORM:**

Gel, in toothpaste-type tubes

**DOSAGE:**

Oral glucose is a viscous gel typically packaged in toothpaste-type tubes. The typical dosage is one tube.

**ACTIONS:**

Increase blood glucose level. Increases glucose available to the brain.

**SIDE EFFECTS:**

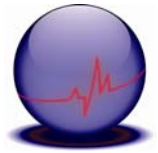
There are no side effects of oral glucose when administered properly. However, the thickness of the gel may cause an airway obstruction or the substance may be aspirated in the patient without a gag reflex.



# FAST RESPONSE SCHOOL OF HEALTHCARE EDUCATION

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN

### EMT: MEDICAL – LEARNING SHEET



#### ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

<b>MEDICATION NAME:</b>	<p>Activated charcoal is the generic name. Some of the better known trade names of activated charcoal are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SuperChar</li><li>• InstaChar</li><li>• Actidose</li><li>• Actidose-Aqua</li><li>• Liqui-Char</li><li>• Charcoaid</li></ul>
<b>INDICATIONS:</b>	<p>Activated charcoal may be used for a patient who has ingested poison by mouth, upon specific orders from medical direction. It is most effective when administered within one (1) hour after the ingestion of the poison and only in very specific cases of poisoning.</p>
<b>CONTRAINDICATIONS:</b>	<p>Activated charcoal should not be administered to a patient who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Has an altered mental status (is not fully alert) because it may cause aspiration</li><li>• Has swallowed acids or alkalis (such as hydrochloric acid, bleach, ammonia, or ethyl alcohol)</li><li>• Is unable to swallow</li><li>• Overdoses on cyanide</li></ul>
<b>MEDICATION FORM:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Premixed in water, frequently available in a plastic bottle containing 12.5 grams of activated charcoal</li><li>2. Powder – should be avoided in the field</li></ol>
<b>DOSAGE:</b>	<p>Unless directed otherwise by medical direction, give both adults and children one (1) gram of activated charcoal per kilogram (1gm/kg) of body weight. The usual adult dose is 30-100 grams. The usual dose for infants and children is 12.5-25 grams.</p>
<b>ACTIONS:</b>	<p>Activated charcoal absorbs poisons in the stomach, prevents their absorption by the body, and enhances their elimination from the body. The ability of activated charcoal to adsorb poisons is due to the preparation process that makes it extremely porous. Activated charcoal does not bind to (is not effective for) alcohol, kerosene, gasoline, caustics, or metals, such as iron. It is not routinely used for ingested poisoning. Only administer activated charcoal based on medical direction.</p>
<b>SIDE EFFECTS:</b>	<p>The most common side effect is blackening of the stools. Some patients, especially those who are already nauseated, may vomit. If the patient vomits, repeat the dose of activated charcoal once. Be alert for further vomiting and transport as soon as possible. Other side effects are rare.</p>