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Perry E. Plummer
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New Hampshire EMS Information Bulletin 18

DATE: February 4, 2013

SUBJECT: Medication Shortage – Dextrose 50%

TO: New Hampshire EMS Providers, Medical Directors, EMS Unit Leaders,
and EMS Hospital Coordinators

FROM: Tom D'Aprix, MD, Chair, Medical Control Board

Recently some locations have begun to experience shortages of D50.

Below are several options to manage this shortage until supplies return to normal levels.

Please note that any method that supplies the same amount of dextrose that would normally be administered as D50 is acceptable, however, lower volume solutions are preferred. Local MRH's should determine which method will work best for their institution/agencies.

Examples include:

1. Local MRH could preload syringes with 25 grams of dextrose solution, creating a D50 syringe
2. Use 100ml D25 (D25 is typically packaged as 10ml syringes, thus 10 syringes would be administered)
3. Administer 250ml of D10W (via 250 ml sterile IV bag)

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