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Blood glucose instability requiring close monitoring Safe insulin administration

Pharmacology-related Cases | Focused diagnosis-based template

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Fictional educational example. Individualize using verified patient findings, authorized treatment and current local protocols. No real patient record or observed outcome is claimed.

Clinical assessment

Subjective: Worried about selecting the right pen and recognizing low glucose.

Objective findings and required checks: Needs supervised return demonstration of preparation, timing and injection technique.

Physical examination and investigations: Review prescription, product/concentration, glucose trend, intake, renal function and injection sites.

Supply actual values, units, timing and trends during supervised application. Do not invent missing clinical data.

Clinical focus and pathophysiology

Safe insulin administration: Insulin lowers glucose; product, dose, timing and intake mismatches can cause serious harm.

Medical / surgical management

Verify the exact insulin order, coordinate with meals as appropriate and use supervised teaching and local checking procedures.

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Illustrative drug and treatment study

Medicine / treatment	Purpose	Nursing checks
Prescribed insulin	Replace or supplement insulin action	Verify name, concentration, dose order, route, timing, storage and glucose monitoring
fast-acting glucose	Treat a qualifying low glucose episode safely	Follow the individual rescue plan.

Treatment examples are not a prescription. Verify the authorized product, dose, route, timing, contraindications and current local product information.

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Focused nursing-problem template

Nursing diagnoses use original clinical problem wording. They are not the licensed NANDA-I classification. Verify any formal label or code against your institution's licensed current edition; select actual or risk diagnoses only when supported by assessment.

Context task: Establish the immediate clinical priorities and verify the baseline before assuming a diagnosis.

Set individualized measurable targets and an exact review time. Select actual or risk statements only when supported by assessment.

Assessment: subjective / objective	Nursing diagnosis: original problem wording	Short- and longer-term goals	Nursing interventions with rationale	Evaluation
Ask: Ask about intake, usual treatment and symptoms of low or high glucose. Assess: Check glucose using the prescribed schedule and assess consciousness and hydration.	Blood glucose instability requiring close monitoring. Possible factors: altered insulin effect, intake, illness or treatment. Validate against the patient's assessment.	Short-term: At the next patient-specific reassessment: Glucose moves toward the individualized target without treatment-related hypoglycemia. Longer-term: Before the clinically approved transition or agreed follow-up: Demonstrates monitoring and explains the personalized sick-day and emergency plan.	1. Verify glucose findings and reassess symptoms rather than treating a number alone. Rationale: Symptoms and trends guide safe interpretation. 2. Coordinate prescribed medication with nutrition and monitor the response. Rationale: Mismatch between treatment and intake can cause dangerous glucose changes. 3. Follow the local emergency pathway for severe hypoglycemia or suspected ketoacidosis. Rationale: These conditions can progress rapidly and require urgent team care. 4. Verify the exact insulin order, coordinate with meals as appropriate and use supervised teaching and local checking procedures. Rationale: Insulin lowers glucose; product, dose, timing and intake mismatches can cause serious harm. The condition-specific plan addresses the underlying problem while response is monitored.	Record the baseline and reassessed finding, the time and whether this goal is met, partly met or not met. If not met, reassess causes and revise or escalate. Do not record an unobserved improvement.

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Apply this template

Complete with verified data: assessment cues; supported actual problem or risk; measurable outcome and review time; selected authorized interventions and rationale; observed response and next action.

Subjective / objective cues: _____

Patient-specific target and review time: _____

Evaluation evidence and next action: _____

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Health education and continuing care

Teach device technique, site rotation, storage, sharps disposal and the individualized hypoglycemia/sick-day plan.

Transition only after clinical readiness is confirmed. Reconcile medicines, check access and caregiver support, and document who will review the patient and when.

Urgent warning signs

Wrong-product/dose exposure, severe low glucose, altered consciousness or seizure requires immediate help.

Evaluation and conclusion

For each goal, document met, partly met or not met using observed evidence and the review time. Reassess and revise if progress is inadequate. Individual assessment, prioritized care and coordinated review guide this topic.

Quick Revision

- Insulin lowers glucose; product, dose, timing and intake mismatches can cause serious harm.
- Priority concerns: Blood glucose instability requiring close monitoring.
- Wrong-product/dose exposure, severe low glucose, altered consciousness or seizure requires immediate help.
- Teach device technique, site rotation, storage, sharps disposal and the individualized hypoglycemia/sick-day plan.

Exam / viva: What assessment evidence supports this problem, and what measurable result would demonstrate improvement?

References

Nursing Fundamentals, 2e - Ernstmeyer & Christman (editors), Open RN / WisTech Open, 2024
https://wtcs.pressbooks.pub/nursingfundamentals/

Nursing Pharmacology, 2e - Ernstmeyer & Christman (editors), Open RN / WisTech Open, 2023
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https://www.indiannursingcouncil.org/gazette-notification

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