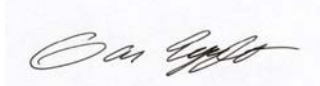
	COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE Department of Fire Rescue STANDARD ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY	
	Subject:	Glucometer
	Reference Number:	SAP-OPS-003
	Effective Date:	1 January 2004
	Last Revision Date:	N/A
Signature of Approval:	 J. Dan Eggleston, Chief	

Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is established to identify when and how glucometers are to be calibrated and outline the procedures in operating glucometers during a blood glucose test.

Definitions:

Authorized Personnel – Active BLS and ALS personnel that have been recognized by the Operational Medical Director of Albemarle County Department of Fire Rescue.

Check strip – Used to check if the glucometer is working properly before running a blood glucose test.

Code strip – Used to set the glucometer (calibrate) to match the box of test strips.

Glucometer – Used to provide information to manage blood sugar levels.

Lancing device – Used for finger puncture.

Test strip – Used for blood or control testing.

Policy:

Calibration

Authorized personnel must calibrate the glucometer once a week and document all results. The calibration of the glucometer consists of two procedures, coding the glucometer and performing a control test.

Coding the Glucometer

Coding the glucometer is performed whenever a new box of test strips is opened and once a week during the calibration of the glucometer.

Procedure:

1. With the glucometer off, insert the code strip into the test slot until a beep sounds. Another beep will sound and a code number will appear in the display (**for example, F-5**).
2. Remove the code strip and store it in the packet.

Control Test

Procedure:

1. Open the test strip packet until the test strip is exposed.
2. Holding the round end of the test strip, insert the strip into the test slot until it stops and a beep sounds.
3. Squeeze a small drop of control solution onto the inside of the foil packet.
4. Touch and hold the test end of the test strip to the drop until the glucometer beeps. The timer will count down 29 seconds and the test result will appear in the display.

Compare the results to the range on the end flap of the test strip carton and record the date and test results on Attachment A. If the results are inconsistent or are not within the specific range, place the unit out of service and see the problem section of the owner's manual.

5. Remove the test strip and dispose in an appropriate area.

Blood Glucose Test

If indicated by the patient's chief complaint, obtain a blood sample:

Procedure:

1. Select the most appropriate site.
2. Clean site with an antiseptic (alcohol prep).
3. Open a foil packet, remove the test strip.
4. With the glucometer off, insert the test strip into the test slot until a beep sounds.
5. Press the lancing device firmly against the puncture site and push button to release. Form a small round drop of blood.
6. Touch and hold the test end of test strip to the drop of blood until the meter beeps.

After 29 seconds, the test result will be displayed. Carefully dispose of the test strip and the lancing device in an appropriate area to prevent injuries and contamination.

