### Alert

40% glucose, on average, raises blood glucose by 0.4 mmol/L (95% CI −0.14–0.14) and should not be used alone in the treatment of moderate to severe hypoglycaemia. This can be a nurse initiated medication according to the local hospital guideline. **DO NOT squirt gel directly into the baby's mouth to avoid choking.**

### Indication

Prevention and treatment of mild hypoglycaemia in neonates ≥35 weeks’ gestation and <48 hours of life.

### Action

Glucose gel contains glucose, a simple carbohydrate, in concentrated aqueous solution, which can be administered by direct application to mucosal surfaces of the mouth, including buccal and lingual surfaces. Absorption from these sites may allow rapid access to the circulation. Some proportion of the dose may be swallowed and absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract.

### Drug Type

Glucose 40%.

### Trade Name

Glucose 40% Oral Gel (Glutose15)

40% glucose solution in oral syringe by Baxter (glucose syringe product GLR.082).

### Presentation

Glutose15 Oral Glucose Gel: 15 g of glucose / 37.5 g tube. 200 mg of glucose gel 40% is equivalent to 0.5 mL. Lemon flavoured. Contains citric acid monohydrate, water, dextrose, glycerin, methylparaben, potassium sorbate, propylparaben, carboxymethylcellulose, sodium citrate.

40% glucose in Water for Injection supplied in 2 mL oral syringe by Baxter (glucose syringe product GLR.082).

### Dosage/Interval

0.5 mL/kg/dose (200 mg/kg/dose). Doses can be repeated as per the local hospital guidelines. 1 mL/kg/dose (400 mg/kg/dose) as a single dose has also been used.

### Route

ORAL

### Maximum Daily Dose

1.5 mL/kg

### Preparation/Dilution

This can be a nurse initiated medication according to the local hospital guideline.

#### Glucose 40% Oral Gel (single use only)

1. Draw up required dose of gel slowly in an oral-only 5 mL syringe.
2. Dry baby’s mouth with gauze. DO NOT squirt gel directly into the baby’s mouth.
3. Dispense one-half of the dose from oral syringe onto gloved finger
4. Massage into the buccal mucosa of one cheek.
5. Repeat with remaining half-dose inside the other cheek.
6. Large doses may be divided into 4 equal amounts and given alternating between cheeks.
7. Commence breastfeeding or administer expressed breast milk or formula.
8. Discard the unused portion of the gel.

#### Glucose 40% Syringe (Baxter)

1. Wearing a clean glove, gently dry the infant’s buccal mucosa with gauze.
2. Instil the prescribed dose slowly into the side of the mouth onto the buccal mucosa and massage it in with a gloved finger.
3. Commence breastfeeding or administer expressed breast milk or formula.
4. Discard the unused portion.

### Monitoring

Measure blood glucose 30 minutes after administration and subsequent management is as per the hospital guideline.

### Contraindications

No information.

### Precautions

<35 weeks gestation; infants at risk of aspiration or in whom feeds are contraindicated.

### Drug Interactions

No information.

### Adverse Reactions

Risk of aspiration if the gel is squirted directly into mouth.

### Compatibility

No information.

### Incompatibility

No information.

### Stability

12-month shelf life. Check the expiry date prior to administration.

### Storage

Baxter syringe: stable at room temperature for 90 days.
**Special Comments**  
40% glucose, on average raises blood glucose level by 0.4 mmol/L (95% CI –0.14–0.14).

**References**  
Refer to full version.

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### Authors Contribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original author/s</th>
<th>Srinivas Bolisetty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Author/s of the current version</td>
<td>Srinivas Bolisetty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence Review</td>
<td>David Osborn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Review</td>
<td>Eszter Jozsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy Review</td>
<td>Jing Xiao, Cindy Chen, Carmen Burman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NMF Group contributors</td>
<td>Nilkant Phad, Himanshu Popat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final content and editing review of the original</td>
<td>Ian Whyte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic version</td>
<td>Cindy Chen, Ian Callander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitator</td>
<td>Srinivas Bolisetty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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