PURPOSE: To intervene and recognize diabetic emergencies.

PROCEDURE:

A. Insulin shock (hypoglycemia):
   1. Hypoglycemia is an abnormally low amount glucose in the blood. This occurs as a result of too much insulin, not enough food (delayed or missed meals) and/or unusual vigorous activity.
   2. The signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia are:
      a. Nervousness, weakness, sweating, trembling.
      b. Faintness, hunger pangs in epigastric region.
      c. Headache, numbness, or tingling of tongue or lips.
      d. High pulse rate.
      e. Confusion, aggressive, or erratic behavior, change in mood.
      f. Double vision.
      g. Pallor, chilling sensation.
   3. Notify physician/ or call 911
   4. Have available some form of sugar to give orally if consumer is conscious. Orange juice, candy, or pack of sugar may be used for this measure.
   5. If consumer is unconscious, check vital signs and obtain glucometer blood sugar.
   6. Record symptoms and treatment(s) carried out.

B. Diabetic coma.
   1. Diabetic coma occurs as a result of too little insulin, too much food, Infectious, G.I. upset.
   2. Signs and symptoms of a diabetic coma are:
      a. Flushed face, rapid pulse and respirations.
      b. Dry skin and acetone breath.
      c. Nausea, vomiting, headache, and abdominal pain.
      d. Thirst, shortness of breath and coma.
   3. Notify physician/ or call 911
   4. Monitor client’s vital signs.
   5. Monitor blood sugar as ordered.
   6. Give medications as ordered by physician.
C. Chart: Time
   Symptoms
   Reaction of consumer
   Treatment (s) administered
   Reaction of consumer to treatment (s)

D. Notifications:
   Notify the Team Leader or designee.
   Physician if necessary.

APPROVED:

___________________  TITLE: Director of Central Care  DATE: _______________
George Harris, LCSW