Dextrose, 10%

MEDICATION

THE DRUG

Class: Carbohydrate

How it works: Rapidly increases blood glucose

Glucose is converted through glycolysis and the citric acid cycle, yielding energy (ATP)

USE IT FOR

- Hypoglycemia — as indicated by patient signs/symptoms and glucometry
- Signs listed on page: shaking, dizziness, tachycardia, fatigue, headache, confusion, sweating

DON'T GIVE / CAUTION

- Contraindications: none in the emergent setting (per page)
- Obtain a blood sample before administration
- Ensure a patent IV

DOSE

Adult: 10-25 g (100-250 mL)

Peds: [dose not stated in original text]

Repeat: [dose not stated in original text]

WATCH FOR

- Tissue necrosis (extravasation)

PEARLS

- Onset is fast; peak and half-life are listed as 'varies' (per page)

Take Home Message:

D10 fixes hypoglycemia fast — draw the blood sample first, and guard the IV: extravasation causes tissue necrosis.