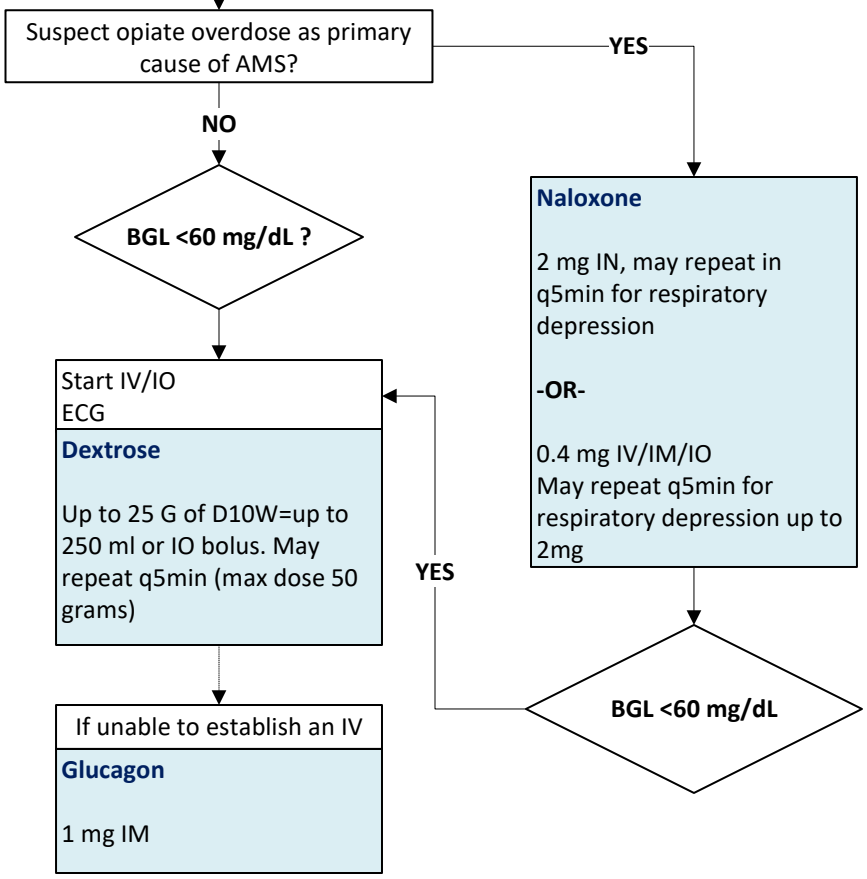
2.03 ALTERED MENTAL STATUS

BLS – FAQ Link

- Obtain history and perform patient assessment
- If BLS, request ALS resource
- If opiate overdose is suspected and respiratory depression are not responsive to BLS airway management: administer **Naloxone** IN (If EMT has been trained)
- Check blood glucose (If EMT has been trained)
- Administer **Oral Glucose** to known diabetic patients with history of hypoglycemia. Patient must be conscious with intact gag reflex.

ALS



Common causes of altered mental status	
• **A**-Alcohol (overconsumption or withdrawal) • **E**-Epilepsy (seizure) • **I**-insulin • **O**-Overdose • **U**-Uremia (renal failure)	• **T**-Trauma • **I**-Infection (sepsis) • **P**-psychiatric condition • **S**-Stroke/Shock

Poisoning and Overdose 2.10 | Stroke 2.14 | Agitated/Violent Patient 6.01

Seizure 2.13 | Suspected Sepsis 2.15

Effective: 10/01/24
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2.03 ALTERED MENTAL STATUS

BLS Treatment
• Obtain history and perform patient assessment • If BLS dispatched, request ALS resource • If opiate overdose is suspected AND respiratory depression is present initiate BLS airway maneuvers and administer **Naloxone** IN if EMT has been trained. • Check blood glucose (if EMT has been trained). • If blood glucose is <60 mg/dl administer **Oral Glucose** with symptoms of hypoglycemia. Patient must be conscious and have an intact gag reflex.
ALS Treatment

• IV / IO of **Normal Saline** TKO.
• Check blood glucose**:**
  ○ If blood glucose is <60 mg/dl administer **Dextrose.** Up to 25 G of D10W = Up to 250ml IV or IO bolus. May repeat q5min based on patient response (max dose 50 grams**)**
  ○ If blood glucose < 60 mg/dl and IV cannot be established: administer **Glucagon**. : 1 mg IM
• If opiate overdose is suspected AND respiratory depression is present initiate BLS maneuvers and administer **Naloxone:** 0.4 mg IV/IM/IO, may repeat in 5 min for continued respiratory depression up to 2mg, or 2mg IN, may repeat in 5 min for continued respiratory depression.

Common causes of altered mental status
• Alcohol, epilepsy, insulin, overdose, uremia, trauma, infection, psychiatric condition, stroke/sepsis • **Poisoning and Overdose 2.10** • **Seizure 2.13** • **Stroke 2.14** • **Suspected Sepsis 2.15** • **Agitated/Violent Patient 6.01**