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<sup>1</sup> This algorithm applies to patients currently on or being admitted to Inpatient, Observation, Extended Recovery, and Overnight Recovery or in the PACU or Diagnostic Imaging

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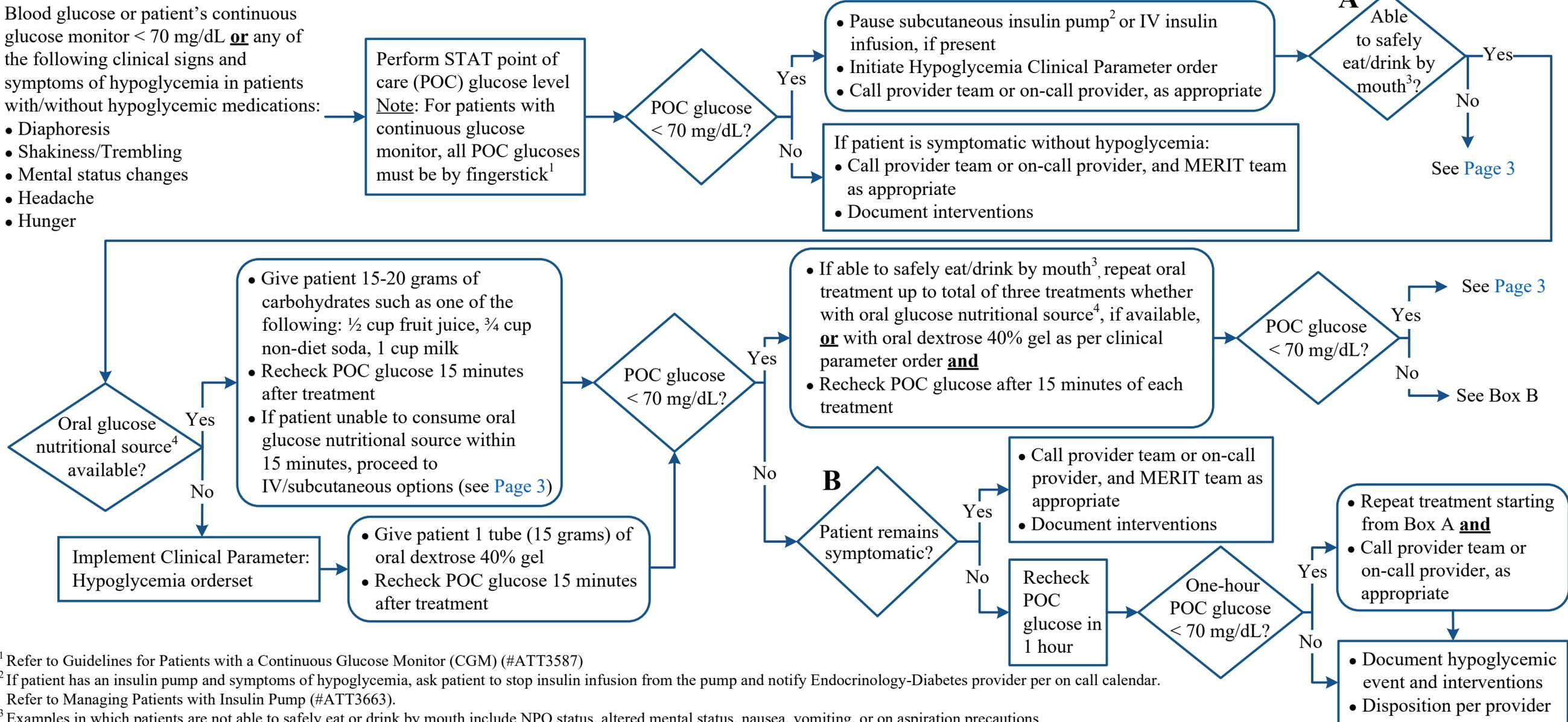
## PRESENTATION

Blood glucose or patient's continuous glucose monitor < 70 mg/dL **or** any of the following clinical signs and symptoms of hypoglycemia in patients with/without hypoglycemic medications:

- Diaphoresis
- Shakiness/Trembling
- Mental status changes
- Headache
- Hunger

**Note: Call MERIT team at any time if patient in apparent physical distress**

## TREATMENT



<sup>1</sup> Refer to Guidelines for Patients with a Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM) (#ATT3587)

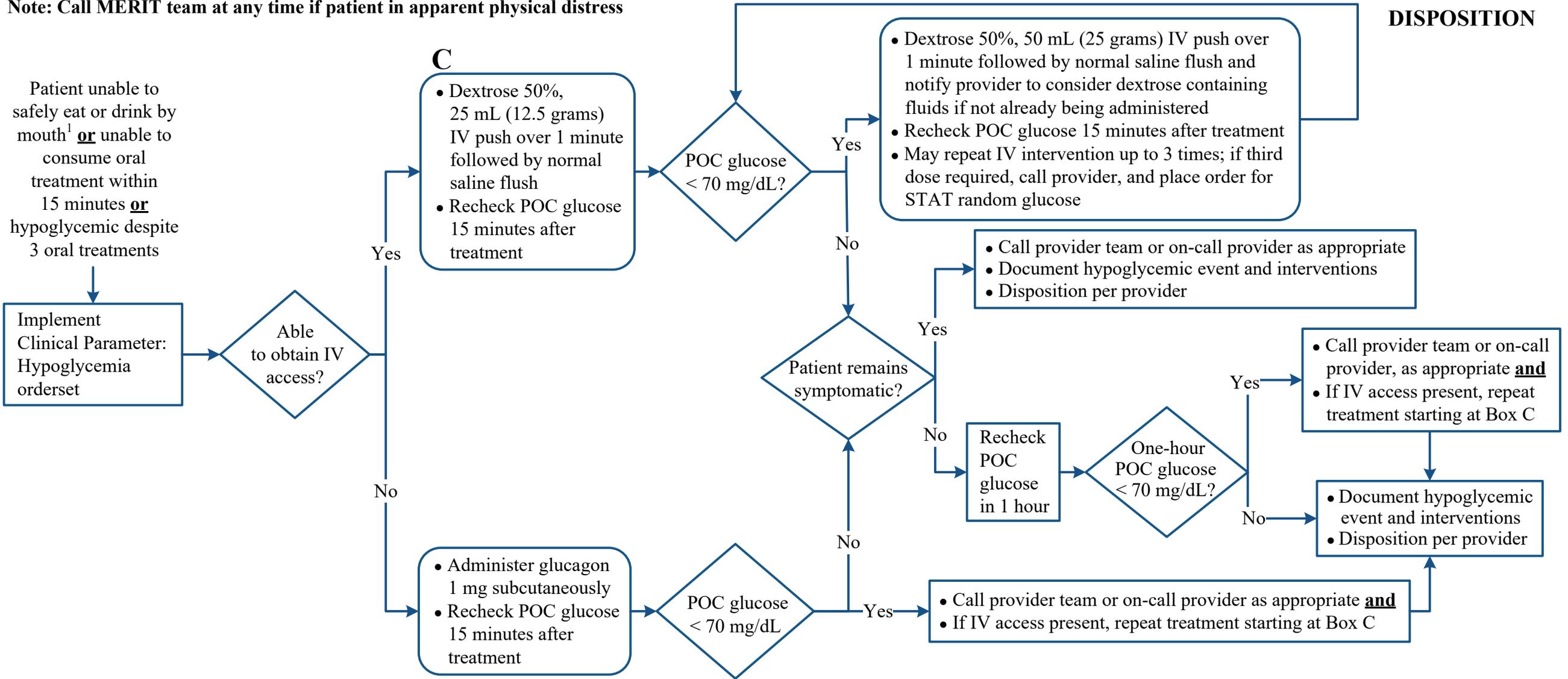
<sup>2</sup> If patient has an insulin pump and symptoms of hypoglycemia, ask patient to stop insulin infusion from the pump and notify Endocrinology-Diabetes provider per on call calendar. Refer to Managing Patients with Insulin Pump (#ATT3663).

<sup>3</sup> Examples in which patients are not able to safely eat or drink by mouth include NPO status, altered mental status, nausea, vomiting, or on aspiration precautions

<sup>4</sup> Oral glucose nutritional sources may include: juice, non-diet soda, milk

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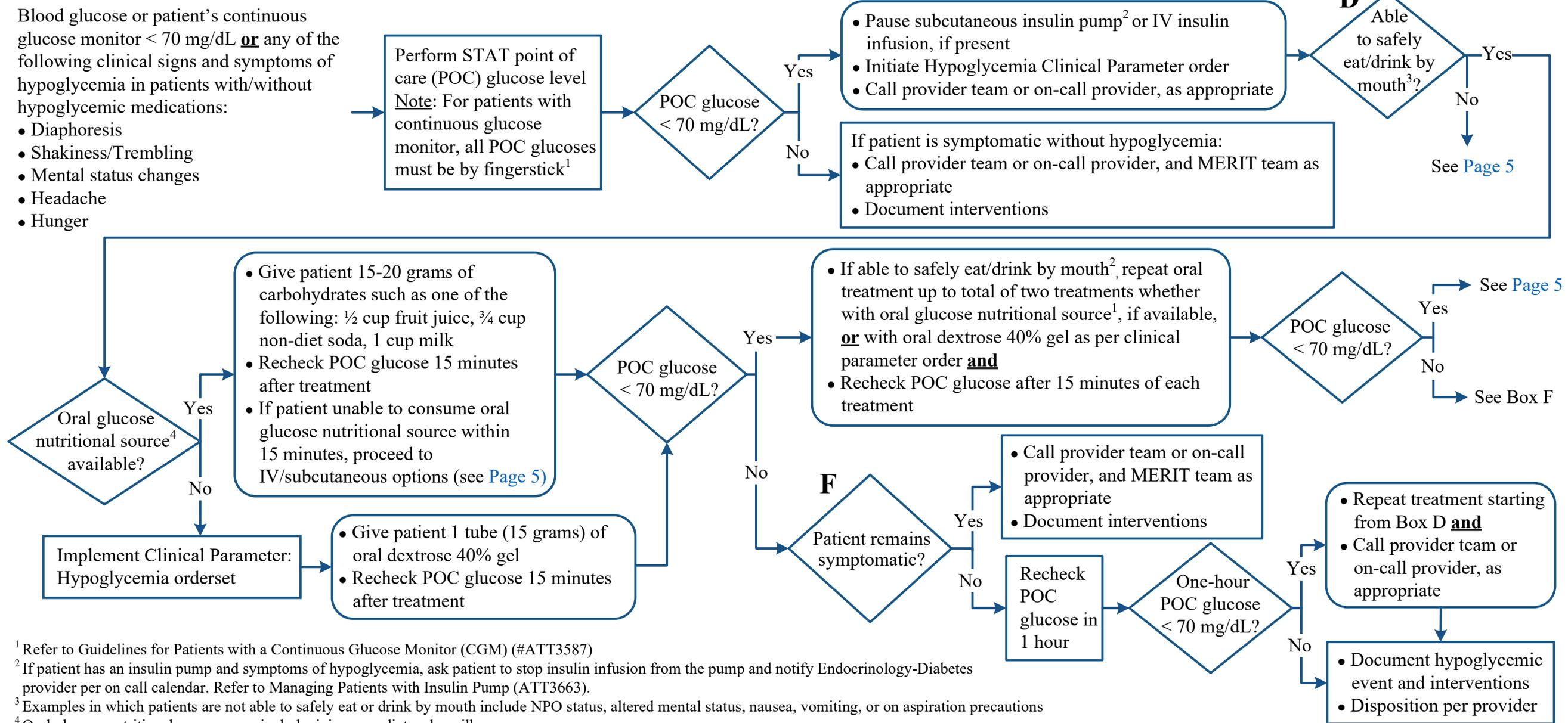
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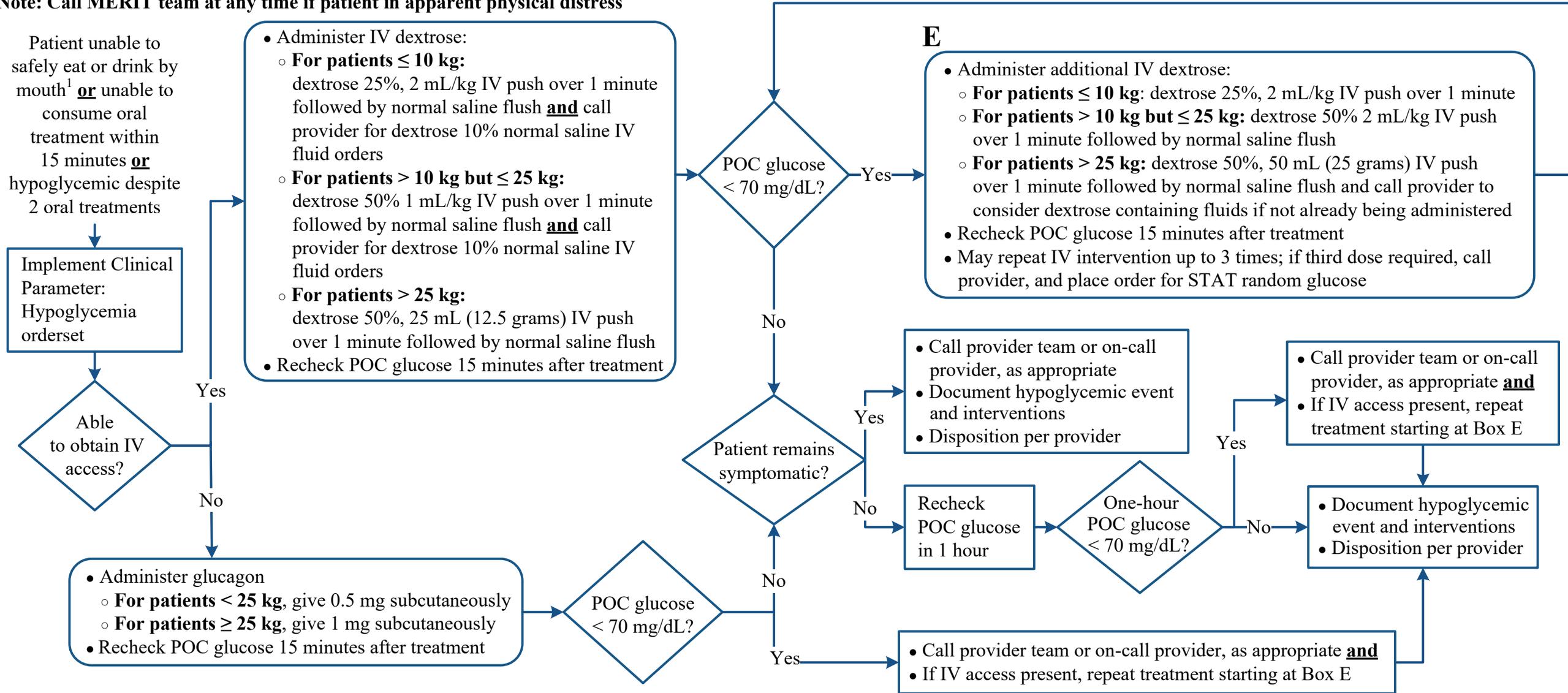
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## SUGGESTED READINGS

- American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee (2025). Standards of care in diabetes-2025. *Diabetes Care*, 48(Suppl. 1), S181–S206. doi:10.2337/dc25-S009
- Lowe, R. N., Williams, B., & Claus, L. W. (2022). Diabetes: How to manage patients experiencing hypoglycaemia. *Drugs in Context*, 11:2021-9-11. doi:10.7573/dic.2021-9-11
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- McEuen, J. A., Gardner, K. P., Barnachea, D. F., Locke, C. L., Backhaus, B. R., & Hughes, S. K. (2010). Cultivating quality: An evidence-based protocol for managing hypoglycemia. *American Journal of Nursing*, 110(7), 40-45. doi:10.1097/01.NAJ.0000383933.45591.1c
- MD Anderson Institutional Policy #CLN1284 – Insulin Pump Policy
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- Tomky, D. (2005). Detection, prevention, and treatment of hypoglycemia in the hospital. *Diabetes Spectrum*, 18(1), 39-44. doi:10.2337/diaspect.18.1.39
- Torres Roldan, V. D., Urtecho, M., Nayfeh, T., Firwana, M., Muthusamy, K., Hasan, B., ... Murad, M. H. (2023). A systematic review supporting the Endocrine Society Guidelines: Management of diabetes and high risk of hypoglycemia. *The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*, 108(3), 592-603. doi:10.1210/clinem/dgac601

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## DEVELOPMENT CREDITS

This practice consensus statement is based on majority expert opinion of Hypoglycemia workgroup at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. It was developed using a multidisciplinary approach that included input from the following:

### Core Development Team Leads

Victor R. Lavis, MD (Endocrine Neoplasia and HD)  
Rodrigo Mejia, MD (Pediatrics)  
Sonali Thosani, MD (Endocrine Neoplasia and HD)

### Workgroup Members

Conor Best, MD (Endocrine Neoplasia and HD)  
Katherine Cain, PharmD (Pharmacy Clinical Programs)  
Luz E. Castellanos, MD (Endocrine Neoplasia and HD)  
Karen Chen, MD (Critical Care Medicine)  
Joylyn Estrella, MSN, RN, CNL (Nursing Administration)  
Olga N. Fleckenstein, BS<sup>♦</sup>  
Petra Grami, DNP, RN (Nursing Administration)  
Bethel Guk-Ong, RN (Nursing)  
Umut Gursel, RN (Nursing)  
Lamisa Khoja, MPAS, MS (Endocrine Neoplasia and HD)  
Jessica Morrow, RN (Nursing)  
Joanne Opena, MSN, CMSRN, CNL (Inpatient Nursing)  
Jaison Philip, RN (Nursing – Pediatrics)

Shehla Razvi, MD (Pediatrics)  
Jennifer Rea, MSN, RN (Nursing)  
Goley B. Richardson, MSN, RN, OCN (Nursing Administration)  
Lindsay Robusto, PharmD, BCOP (Pharmacy Clinical Programs)  
Carmen Sittig, RN (Nursing)  
Janet Smith, MSN, RN (Nursing)  
Lisa Triche, DNP, RN (Pediatrics - Patient Care)  
Kallie Varughese, PharmD (Pharmacy Clinical Programs)  
Steven Waguespack, MD (Endocrine Neoplasia and HD)  
Mary Lou Warren, DNP, APRN, CNS-CC<sup>♦</sup>  
Annie Wilson, MSN, RN, CNL (Inpatient Nursing)  
Nicole Caguioa Zhao, RN (Nursing)

<sup>♦</sup> Clinical Effectiveness Development Team