



Glycerol Toxicity from Slushies



Can present as nausea, abdominal pain, headache, drowsiness and profound hypoglycaemia

Glycerol adds sweetness and helps slushy ice drinks keep their consistency

Glycerol metabolites inhibit gluconeogenesis

Just one slushy in a child <16kg can result in toxic levels

- Take a thorough history & manage ABCs
- **Check blood sugar**
- *Follow local trust protocol for metabolic screening of hypoglycaemic children*
- **Treat hypoglycaemia with 2ml/kg of 10% dextrose bolus & maintenance infusion, as per APLS**
- Check blood sugar every 5 mins until >4 mmol/l
- Refer to Paeds/PICU for admission
- Consider urine for glycerol levels
- Consider reporting to FSA and FSS

[Report a food safety incident | Food Standards Agency](#)

For Safety Alerts and RCEM issued Safety Flashes see:

<https://rcem.ac.uk/safety-3/>