Diabetes/DKA cheat sheet

Priority with elevated glucose and new onset diabetic: IV access and VBG to determine if they are in DKA

- Patient should also be on cardiac monitor

Anticipate minimum of glucose POCT, VBG with lactic acid, CMP, CBC

* may want additional antibody testing (if new diabetic and labs aren’t ordered consider drawing extra gold tops and a brick red top)

Elevated glucose? Fluid bolus is first step

Insulin drip? Two lines and two nurses. You need two lines (one dedicated for the insulin drip) and you need two nurses to verify the drip

- Add high alert sticker to the insulin bag and tubing
- If patient is in DKA, anticipate two bag set up and initiate early with insulin drip