

SUXAMETHONIUM:

Class: Neuromuscular Blocker Agent, Depolarizing

Indications: To facilitate both rapid sequence and routine endotracheal intubation and to relax skeletal muscles during surgery

Note: Does not relieve pain or produce sedation

To reduce the intensity of muscle contractions of electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)

Available dosage form in the hospital: 100MG/2ML AMP

Dosage:

-Neuromuscular blockade: I.M., I.V.: Dose to effect; doses will vary due to interpatient variability. Use carefully and/or consider dose reduction in patients with reduced plasma cholinesterase activity due to genetic abnormalities of plasma cholinesterase or when associated with other conditions (eg, pregnancy, severe liver disease, renal disease); prolonged neuromuscular blockade may occur.

-I.M.: Up to 3-4 mg/kg, total dose should not exceed 150 mg

-I.V.:

-Intubation: 0.6 mg/kg (range: 0.3-1.1 mg/kg)

-Rapid sequence intubation: 1-1.5 mg/kg (Sluga, 2005; Weiss, 1997)

Note: Initial dose of succinylcholine must be increased when nondepolarizing agent pretreatment used because of the antagonism between succinylcholine and nondepolarizing neuromuscular-blocking agents.

Renal Impairment:

No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling.

Hepatic Impairment:

No dosage adjustment provided in manufacturer's labeling.

Common side effect:

Cardiovascular: Arrhythmias, bradycardia (higher with second dose, more frequent in children), cardiac arrest, hyper-/hypotension, tachycardia

Dermatologic: Rash

Endocrine & metabolic: Hyperkalemia

Gastrointestinal: Salivation (excessive)

Neuromuscular & skeletal: Jaw rigidity, muscle fasciculation, postoperative muscle pain, rhabdomyolysis (with possible myoglobinuric acute renal failure)

Ocular: Intraocular pressure increased

Renal: Acute renal failure (secondary to rhabdomyolysis)

Respiratory: Apnea, respiratory depression (prolonged)

Miscellaneous: Anaphylaxis, malignant hyperthermia

Postmarketing and/or case reports: Acute quadriplegic myopathy syndrome (prolonged use), myositis ossificans (prolonged use)

Pregnancy Risk Factor: C