ETOMIDATE

PHARMACOLOGY & MECHANISM OF ACTIONS:
- Etomidate is a short acting sedative-hypnotic agent with no analgesic effects
- Etomidate is a preferred RSI induction agent as it is fast acting and does not compromise hemodynamic stability.
- Produces hypnosis rapidly causing CNS depression
- Thought to act on GABA receptors to produce effects similar to those with barbiturate administration
- Causes hypnosis within 10 seconds and can last up to 5 minutes (longer when combined with other CNS depressants).
- Rapidly metabolized in the liver

INDICATIONS:
- Induction of anesthesia for intubation in RSI administered immediately prior to Succinylcholine administration.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:
- Known allergy to Etomidate

ADMINISTRATION:

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<tr>
<th>PARAMEDIC</th>
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<tr>
<td>ADULT</td>
<td>PEDIATRIC</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 to 30 mg IV/IO</td>
<td>0.2-0.3 mg/kg IV</td>
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PRECAUTIONS & SIDE EFFECTS:
- Fairly frequent observation of myoclonic muscle twitching
- Pregnancy Category C.
- Reduces cerebral blood flow and blunts ICP, reduces cerebral metabolic rate of oxygen consumption, therefore it is considered a good choice for head injury patients.
- Etomidate has minimal effect on cardiovascular function, so it has a low incidence of clinically significant hypotension.

SPECIAL NOTES:
- Effects may be prolonged in patients with liver failure.
- Post-operatively, the most common side effect is vomiting.
- Ensure alternate airway devices and suction is present in case intubation is not successful.