

## FORMULARY

### Succinylcholine (Anectine)

<b>Class of Drug</b>	Depolarizing neuromuscular blocking agent (paralytic) and skeletal muscle relaxant used to facilitate intubation.
<b>Mechanism of Action</b>	Short acting skeletal muscle relaxant that exerts effects by binding with cholinergic receptor sites, producing depolarization and preventing the action of acetylcholine. This depolarization is observed as fasciculations of muscle groups. Flaccid paralysis occurs rapidly, within one min after IV administration. The duration of effect is approximately four to six min.
<b>Indications</b>	Rapid sequence intubation
<b>Contraindications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Personal or family history of malignant hyperthermia.</li><li>- Personal or family history of skeletal muscle myopathies.</li><li>- Known hypersensitivity.</li><li>- Known or suspected hyperkalemia.</li><li>- Denervation of skeletal muscle or upper motor neuron injury may cause severe hyperkalemia which may result in cardiac arrest (prior spinal cord injury).</li></ul>
<b>Adverse Effects</b>	<p>1. Malignant hyperthermia: Likelihood increases with administration of general anesthetics. Presents with spasm of the masseter (jaw) muscles, progressive to generalized rigidity, tachycardia, tachypnea and elevated temperature.</p> <p>2. BRADYCARDIA is primarily noted in children. Pretreatment with atropine may reduce this instance.</p> <p>Reports of cardiac arrest, dysrhythmias, tachycardia, hypertension, increased ICP and IOP, hyperkalemia, muscle fasciculations, and rhabdomyolysis with the potential for acute renal failure.</p>
<b>Precautions</b>	<p>Electrolyte abnormalities and those who may have digitalis toxicity – cardiac dysrhythmia may occur.</p> <p>Patients must be maintained on a cardiac monitor during and after medication administration.</p> <p>This solution should be kept refrigerated or may be stored at room temperature for short periods only (up to 14 days).</p>
<b>Dosing/Administration</b>	<p>Adults/pediatrics: 2 mg/kg IV</p> <p>Onset: approximately one min</p> <p>Duration: 4 – 6 min</p>
<b>Pregnancy Category</b>	Class C Uncertain safety – animal studies show adverse effect but no human studies exist