

CLASS: A

PROTOCOLS USED IN: Endotracheal Intubation RSI

PHARMACOLOGY AND ACTIONS:

Vecuronium is a non-depolarizing neuromuscular blocking agent causing skeletal muscle relaxation. It reversibly binds the acetylcholine receptor, blocking the action of acetylcholine. Neuromuscular blockade occurs within 2-3 minutes. Time to recovery is 30-45 minutes. Vecuronium metabolism is 5-35% renal with the remainder done in the liver.

INDICATIONS:

- A. For sustained neuromuscular blockade in the intubated patient.
- B. As the first line agent for Rapid Sequence Induction in the patient where Succinylcholine is contraindicated.

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

None

PRECAUTIONS:

- A. Patients with renal or hepatic failure may experience prolonged paralysis.
- B. Vecuronium has no effect on consciousness and must be used with a sedative or induction agent.

SIDE EFFECTS AND NOTES:

- A. Vecuronium exhibits minimal side effects and does not substantially affect heart rate or rhythm, systolic or diastolic blood pressure, mean arterial pressure, cardiac output, or systemic vascular resistance.
- B. Vecuronium can be used to maintain paralysis even if intubation was performed without Succinylcholine.

ADULT DOSING:

0.1 mg/kg IV/IO.

PEDIATRIC DOSING:

0.05 – 0.1 mg/kg IV/IO