Section: Drug Reference
Subject: ROCURONIUM BROMIDE (ZEMURON®)
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Rocuronium Bromide

1. CLASSIFICATION
   a. Non-Depolarizing Neuromuscular Blocker (Curariform Drug)

2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS
   a. Non-Depolarizing paralytic that affects nicotinic acetylcholine muscle receptors.
   b. Rapid to intermediate onset.
   c. Intermediate duration

3. INDICATIONS
   a. To provide prolonged paralysis as part of the RSI process
   b. To manage post resuscitation hypothermia through the prevention of shivering.

4. CONTRAINDICATIONS
   a. Known allergy to medication or bromides

5. PRECAUTIONS
   a. Patients with liver disease may need higher doses to achieve adequate muscle relaxation

6. ADVERSE REACTIONS
   a. Tachycardia
   b. EKG changes
   c. Transient hypotension
   d. Hypertension

7. DRUG ACTION TIME
   a. Onset: 1 minute
   b. Duration: 20 – 60 minutes

8. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION POINTS
   a. Carbamazepine (Tegretol®) or phenytoin (Dilantin®) may decrease the duration of action.
   b. Antibiotics may increase duration of action.
   c. Patients with burns are known to develop resistance to non-depolarizing neuromuscular blocking agents.
   d. Physically incompatible with diazepam, furosemide, and methylprednisolone.
   e. Keep refrigerated prior to use (DO NOT freeze).
   f. If kept at room temperature, it must be used within 60 days.