


Section: Drug Reference  
Subject: VECURONIUM BROMIDE (NORCURON®)  
Section #: 348.38  
Issue Date: March 21, 2011  
Revision Date:  
Approved By: 

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## Vecuronium Bromide

1. CLASSIFICATION
  - a. Non-Depolarizing Neuromuscular Blocker (Curaform Drug)
2. ACTIONS / DESCRIPTIONS
  - a. Non-Depolarizing paralytic that affects nicotinic acetylcholine muscle receptors
  - b. Long duration of action.
3. INDICATIONS
  - a. To provide long term 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
5. ADVERSE REACTIONS
  - a. May be a delay in effect in older patients with coronary artery disease and peripheral edema
  - b. Only use in the pregnant female if clearly needed
  - c. Antibiotics may increase duration of neuromuscular blockade
6. DRUG ACTION TIME
  - a. Onset: approximately 1 minute
  - b. Good intubation conditions: 2.5 – 3 minutes
  - c. Maximum paralytic effect: 3 – 5 minutes
  - d. Duration: 60 – 70 minutes
7. INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION POINTS
  - a. Neuromuscular blocking agents will produce respiratory paralysis (intubation & ventilatory support MUST be accomplished).
  - b. Prolonged respiratory apnea.
  - c. No effect on the consciousness or pain level of the patient (consider the use of analgesics).
  - d. Premedication with lidocaine may blunt any increase in ICP associated with head injuries (used when etomidate is contraindicated).