Drug Name: Etomidate
Trade Name: Amidate
Class:
- Anesthetic
- Non-narcotic sedative hypnotic

Mechanism of Action:
- Etomidate appears to facilitate GABA-minergic neurotransmission by increasing the number of available GABA receptors, possibly by displacing endogenous inhibitors of GABA binding *(Remembering that GABA is an inhibitory neurotransmitter)*
- Etomidate is short acting and its effects are at least partially due to depression of the reticular activating system
- Induces sedation & amnesia
- It has minimal cardiac & respiratory depressive effects and causes no histamine release

Indications:
- Induction agent for intubation

Contraindications:
- Hypersensitivity
- Labor / Imminent Delivery
- Induction agent for intubation in patients with septic shock

Precautions:
- Elderly
- Hepatic/Renal disease
- Pregnancy (C)
- Safety not established under the age of 10

Available Forms
- 2 mg/ml vials

Dosage:

**Adults:**
- Intubation: 0.3 mg/kg slow IV over 30-60 seconds (usual dose is 20-30 mg) repeat as needed. Maximum dose 0.6 mg/kg

**Pediatrics:**
- 2-8 years of age--0.3 mg/kg slow IV over 30-60 seconds. Maximum dose 0.6 mg/kg

Onset:
- 30 seconds

Duration:
- 3-5 minutes

Side Effects:
- N/V (especially with rapid administration)
- Dyspnea *(mostly relieved with airway positioning)*
- Dysrhythmias
- Hypotension or Hypertension
- Temporary involuntary muscle movements
DRUG: ETOMIDATE

Interactions:
- Potentiates with other CNS depressants.
- Concurrent use of antihypertensives agents may cause hypotension

PEARLS:
- As with other sedative hypnotics, carefully monitor airway, breathing, & circulation when administering etomidate (i.e. SpO2, EKG, blood pressure). Be prepared to manage the airway aggressively
- Can suppress adrenal hormone synthesis.
- Should be given through a large, proximal vein to avoid pain at the injection site
- Etomidate is not currently recommended for pediatrics under the age of 2