

RX

**Drug Name:** Etomidate  
**Trade Name:** Amidate  
**REVISED:** December 1, 2022  
**Date**  
**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:**

*Intubation:*

**Adults/Peds:**

- **IV/IO: 0.2 – 0.4 mg/kg slow IV over 30-60 seconds**
- **Repeat ONCE as needed.**
- **HOLD for patients < 2 years of age.**

**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**

# RX

This document is for **reference only**. Please refer to SWO's for specific indications, dosages, and applications

# DRUG: ETOMIDATE

## Interactions:

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

## PEARLS:

- **Pregnancy Class C:** Pregnancy Category C. Etomidate has been shown to have an embryocidal effect in rats when given in doses 1 and 4 times the human dose. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Etomidate should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risks to the fetus (Source: FDA)
- **Pediatrics:** Etomidate is not currently recommended for pediatrics under the age of 2
- **Sepsis/Shock:** Can suppress adrenal hormone synthesis.
- 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
- Should be given through a large, proximal vein to avoid pain at the injection site

**REFERENCE ONLY**