

## **Rocuronium**

### **Indications for use:**

1. Neuromuscular blockade for procedures such as endotracheal intubation only when succinylcholine is not available (due to shortage) or is contraindicated

### **Dosage**

1. 0.6-1.2 mg/kg IV once for endotracheal intubation

### **Onset of action:**

1. 2-4 minutes
2. Most patients will have sufficient neuromuscular blockade after 2 minutes with 1.2 mg/kg

### **Duration of action:**

1. Typically 30 minutes for dosing of 0.6 mg/kg and 45 minutes with dosing at 1.2 mg/kg, may vary based on patient renal function

### **Special Notes:**

1. Rocuronium is a non-depolarizing neuromuscular block, fasciculations are not seen with the use of this medication
2. Rocuronium is approved when succinylcholine is either not available or contraindicated. Consider rocuronium in these cases:
  - a. For patients with suspected hyperkalemia, including patients requiring emergent dialysis
  - b. Prolonged down time or rhabdomyolysis,
  - c. Suspected acute renal failure
  - d. Severe burns
  - e. A history or concern for malignant hyperthermia
3. Rocuronium has a moderate duration of action (>30 minutes) and cannot be reversed, ensure that you can adequately control the airway of a patient you intend to paralyze with this agent and **STRONGLY** consider and/or prepare alternative actions for a failed airway such as an esophageal airway device (Igel, King-LT), cricothyroidotomy, etc.