Etomidate

MEDICATION

THE DRUG

Class: Sedative, non-barbiturate hypnotic

How it works: Depresses CNS function via GABA

Cerebroprotective — decreases ICP/IOP; few cardiovascular/respiratory effects (per page)

USE IT FOR

- Sedation prior to intubation

DON'T GIVE / CAUTION

- Contraindication: hypersensitivity
- Single dose only (per page)
- Monitor for hypotension
- Caution with severe asthma and sepsis
- Monitor BP, pulse, ECG

DOSE

Adult: **0.3 mg/kg IV/IO, single dose (RSI sedation)**
Peds: **[dose not stated in original text]**
Repeat: **Single dose only (per page)**

WATCH FOR

- Myoclonic skeletal muscle movement
- Apnea
- Hypotension; hypertension
- Cardiac dysrhythmias
- Nausea/vomiting
- Snoring

PEARLS

- Onset 5-15 seconds; peak 60 seconds; half-life 3-5 min (per page)

Take Home Message:

Etomidate sedates for intubation with few cardiovascular effects — single dose, and watch for hypotension and myoclonus.