

## TECHNIQUE FOR RAPID SEQUENCE INDUCTION

- **get ready for a surgical airway just in case**
- **get the sucker ready**
- **get the ventilator ready**
- **get the tube ready – check that the cuff inflates**
- **get the laryngoscope ready – check that the lightbulb works**
- **preoxygenate with 100% oxygen**
- **Apply cricoid pressure**
- **Sedate with whatever is handy:**
  - **THIOPENTONE 1-5mg/kg, so ~300mg will usually do**
  - Duration is 5-10 minutes
  - Thiopentone will drop the blood pressure. If this is bad, you may use fentanyl instead, because it has very little effect on blood pressure. In a totally comatose patient, you may consider not sedating at all.
- **Paralyse with whatever is handy:**
  - **SUX 1-2mg/kg, so about 100 mg**
  - Duration is 5 minutes or so
  - **Or: ROCURONIUM 1mg/kg, so about 70-80mg**
  - Duration is 30 minutes! You better get the tube in.
  - We use roc because it has the most rapid onset, 1-2 minutes, and has a minor effect on heart rate.
  - Vecuronium has no cardiac effects but the onset time is 2-4 minutes.
  - We don't use pancuronium because it causes tachycardia and hypertension
- **INTUBATE when they relax**
- **Inflate the cuff and auscultate**
- **Relax cricoid pressure and ventilate**
- **Check for CO2 exhalation with a colorimetric capnographer**