



Contraceptive Advice for Patients Following Sugammadex and Aprepitant Administration

As part of your anesthetic today you received medication(s) that lower the effectiveness of birth control medications. The medications Sugammadex and Aprepitant may reduce the effectiveness of hormone contraceptives and may temporarily increase the risk of pregnancy.

Sugammadex (Bridion®) is a medication that speeds recovery from muscle relaxant drugs patients receive during surgery. Sugammadex may decrease the effectiveness of your hormonal contraceptive (birth control) for up to 7 days.

- Use a backup birth control method for up to 7 days after your procedure or surgery
- Continue taking your hormonal contraceptive during this period

Aprepitant (Emend®) is a medication that prevents nausea. Aprepitant may decrease the effectiveness of your hormonal contraceptive (birth control) for up to 28 days.

- Use a backup birth control method for up to 28 days after your procedure or surgery
- Continue taking your hormonal contraceptive during this period.

What are some examples of hormonal contraceptives?

- Oral contraceptives (birth control pills), Injectable contraceptives (birth control shot), Implantable contraceptives (small plastic rod or device inserted under the skin or inside the uterus), Patches (small adhesive patch worn on the skin), Vaginal rings (flexible plastic ring inserted into the vagina)

What are some examples of backup birth control methods?

- Male condom, Female condom, Female diaphragm, Female cervical cap and sponge, Abstinence (not having sex)

Summary:

- *An anesthetic drug you received today can interfere with hormonal contraception and increase the risk of pregnancy*
- *You will need to take additional contraceptive precautions for 7 to 28 days, depending upon which drug you received*

If you require further information while in hospital ask to speak with your anesthesiologist. If you require further information after being discharged from hospital contact the Vancouver Acute Department of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Care at 604-875-4304, your family physician or your local pharmacist.

**adapted from University of Michigan Health System handout: Version 12/2016*