

COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation.

Get the latest public health information from CDC: <https://www.coronavirus.gov>.

Get the latest research from NIH: <https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus>.

Find NCBI SARS-CoV-2 literature, sequence, and clinical content: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sars-cov-2/>.

FULL TEXT LINKS



[Review](#) [Pract Neurol](#). 2020 Oct 27;practneurol-2020-002633.

doi: 10.1136/practneurol-2020-002633. Online ahead of print.

Anaesthesia and neuromuscular disorders: what a neurologist needs to know

Luuk R van den Bersselaar ^{1 2}, Marc M J Snoeck ¹, Madelief Gubbels ², Sheila Riaz ³, Erik-Jan Kamsteeg ⁴, Heinz Jungbluth ^{# 5 6 7}, Nicol C Voermans ^{# 8}

Affiliations

PMID: 33109742 DOI: [10.1136/practneurol-2020-002633](https://doi.org/10.1136/practneurol-2020-002633)

Abstract

Neurologists are often asked for specific advice regarding patients with neuromuscular disease who require general anaesthesia. However, guidelines on specific neuromuscular disorders do not usually include specific guidelines or pragmatic advice regarding (regional and/or general) anaesthesia or procedural sedation. Furthermore, the medical literature on this subject is mostly limited to publications in anaesthesiology journals. We therefore summarise general recommendations and specific advice for anaesthesia in different neuromuscular disorders to provide a comprehensive and accessible overview of the knowledge on this topic essential for clinical neurologists. A preoperative multidisciplinary approach involving anaesthesiologists, cardiologists, chest physicians, surgeons and neurologists is crucial. Depolarising muscle relaxants (succinylcholine) should be avoided at all times. The dose of non-depolarising muscle relaxants must be reduced and their effect monitored. Patients with specific mutations in *RYR1* (ryanodine receptor 1) and less frequently in *CACNA1S* (calcium channel, voltage-dependent, L type, alpha 1S subunit) and *STAC3* (SH3 and cysteine rich domain 3) are at risk of developing a life-threatening malignant hyperthermia reaction.

Keywords: Anaesthetics; muscle disease; muscular dystrophy; myasthenia.

© Author(s) (or their employer(s)) 2020. No commercial re-use. See rights and permissions. Published by BMJ.

LinkOut – more resources

Full Text Sources

[HighWire](#)