




Section: 20. Muscle relaxants (peripherally-acting) and cholinesterase inhibitors

Codes ATC: **M03AA01**

Indication	Muscle relaxants	Code ICD11: XM1638330014
INN	Alcuronium chloride	
Type de médicament	Chemical agent	
Type de liste	Liste de base	
Formulations	Parenteral > General injections > IV: 5 mg per mL in 2 mL ampoule (alcuronium chloride)	
Historique des statuts LME	Ajouté pour la première fois en 1993 (TRS 850) Retiré en 2011 (TRS 965)	
Sexe	Tous	
Âge	Adolescents et adultes	
Équivalence thérapeutique	Des médicaments appartenant à la même classe pharmacologique peuvent être utilisés	
Renseignements sur le brevet	Patents have expired in most jurisdictions Lire la suite sur les brevets. 	
Wikipédia	Alcuronium	
DrugBank	Alcuronium	

Résumé des preuves et recommandation du comité d'experts

Alcuronium was replaced by atracurium (with a square box) following a review of muscle relaxants on the the EML in 2011. Alcuronium has a slow onset and long duration of action, with more adverse effects than other non-depolarizing agents (1). It is no longer registered by stringent regulatory authorities (United States, United Kingdom, France). Atracurium has fewer adverse effects, although it can cause histamine release. Rocuronium and vecuronium have longer onset of action but decreased risk of tachycardia. Pancuronium has an even longer onset and duration of action. The Committee noted that the information in the review showed that, within the class, atracurium is cheaper than others except pancuronium (Table 7 in the application) and therefore recommended the replacement of alcuronium with atracurium (2), due to its comparative effectiveness and safety profile, current availability, and cost. The Committee recommended that this section (Section 20) be reviewed before the next Expert Committee meeting, to consider which longer-acting agents were needed, and which were specifically useful in children. References: 1. Hunter JM. New neuromuscular blocking drugs. New England Journal of Medicine, 1995,332:1691-1699.

