



New Formula as Alternative to Seconal and Nembutal

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Medical

NU Tech – New Formula as Alternative to Seconal & Nembutal
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“I have no conflicts of interest relevant for
Euthanasia 2016 and have nothing to disclose.”

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New Medical Protocol

- Alternative to secobarbital (Seconal) or pentobarbital (Nembutal)
- Due to the increase in the cost of Seconal (10 grams for \$3,000—\$3,500) and Nembutal (which is no longer shipped to the USA, but if obtained costs \$30,000) an alternate mixture of medication is available to produce a lethal dose that is similar in results to Seconal and Nembutal.

Preparing the Medications

- Because all death with dignity medications take some preparation involving timing and planning, it is helpful to have a friend, family member, loved one, nurse, hospice personnel or volunteer from an advocacy organization present to help follow these steps.
- All Death with Dignity laws state clearly the patient must take the medicine him/herself.

Preparing the Medications

- None of the laws tell the doctor exactly what prescription to give the patient.
- The medications discussed here, in combination, have been used with the results the same or similar to taking secobarbital or pentobarbital.
- Patients go into a coma within 5 to 10 minutes and death occurs within 60 to 90 minutes.
- The alternative medications are obtained from a compounding pharmacy.

Alternative Compound Medication

- Phenobarbital (20 grams)
- Chloral Hydrate (20 grams)
- Morphine Sulfate (3 grams)
 - If the patient is highly opiate-experienced the morphine sulfate may be doubled in quantity, and then mix the compounded portions listed above with:
- 200 proof / 100% Ethanol (30 ml), or H₂O (3 ml)
 - Ethanol results in faster absorption than H₂O only.
 - Non-alcohol version may be easier to drink, but following it with a couple ounces of alcohol to wash the patient's mouth will also enhance the effect of the mixture.

Alternative Compound Medication

- Phenobarbital, Chloral Hydrate, and Morphine Sulfate are required to be prescribed by a physician and obtained from a compounding pharmacy.

Cautions

- The patient should not take any form of laxatives for at least 24 hours prior to taking the above described medications.
- The patient should not eat 4 to 5 hours prior to taking the medication. The patient may drink water and juices, preferably non-acidic liquids.
- **IMPORTANT:** If the patient has an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator, it should be turned off.

Cautions

- If the patient thinks s/he may be unable to swallow the mixture in one to two minutes, or if s/he has had recent problems with nausea or vomiting, s/he should speak to their physician or hospice nurse for suggestions.
- In all likelihood, the patient will fall asleep within a few minutes after consuming the medication. It is important to say what the patient wishes to say to loved ones before consuming it.

Taking the Medications

- To enhance absorption, the patient not only should not eat and only consume clear or non-fatty liquids 5 to 6 hours prior to ingesting the lethal dose of medications, but should not ingest carbonated or caffeinated liquids.
- To prevent nausea the patient should, one hour prior to taking the lethal mixture, take 1 tablet (8mg) of Ondansetron (Zofran) and 2 tablets (20 mg) of Metoclopramide (Reglan).

Taking the Medications

- Just prior to ingesting the mixture it is strongly recommended the patient consume 2 to 3 tablespoons of pure liquid honey and 2 to 3 tablespoons of Pepto Bismol or a generic equivalent of an anti-diarrheal medicine to somewhat alleviate the caustic (burning) sensation caused by the medication.

Taking the Medications

- The patient should then ingest the liquid solution of Phenobarbital, Chloral Hydrate, Morphine Sulfate, and Ethanol / water.
- This solution should be consumed within one to two minutes because in many cases patients have lost consciousness within 3 to 5 minutes.

Taking the Medications

- To somewhat prevent the bitter aftertaste and caustic (burning) effect of the solution many patients consume one or two ounces (30-60 ml) of room temperature alcohol, except beer, or non-acidic liquids, and two tablespoons of honey after taking the medication.



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS



Thank you for your invitation.

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