

## CLINICAL "SNIPPETS"

**"Adrenal suppression following a single dose of etomidate for rapid sequence induction:  
A prospective randomized study."**

Hildreth AN, Mejia VA, Maxwell RA, et al:

*Journal of Trauma. 65(3):573-579, 2008.*

**Overview:** Etomidate has been linked to subsequent adrenocortical insufficiency in non-trauma patients. In this study, 30 multiple-trauma patients were randomized to either receive etomidate and succinylcholine, or a combination of fentanyl and midazolam with succinylcholine for Rapid Sequence Intubation (RSI).

**Conclusions:** There was chemical evidence that the use of etomidate for RSI in trauma patients led to adrenocortical insufficiency. The authors state that: "In light of our study, we recommend that other drugs should be used as first-line agents for RSI in trauma patients."