

Sodium Amytal

General information

A [barbiturate](#) derivative that activates GABA A receptors. When it is administered into cerebral vasculature during [Wada test](#), it temporarily anesthetizes the perfused region, resulting in the isolation of the contralateral hemisphere, permitting assessment of cortical functions including language and memory. It blocks neuronal activity, and in conjunction with [lidocaine](#), which blocks axonal activity, it is administered as a test injection in procedures such as spinal AVM embolization, or embolization of spinal tumors, prior to the injection of the embolic agent.

Indications and case selection

[Wada test](#)

Test injection prior to the embolization of the feeder vessel of AVM. In order to suppress both neuronal and axonal activity, [Amytal](#) injection is followed by [xylocaine](#) injection.

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