High-dose sugammadex speeds reversal of neuromuscular block

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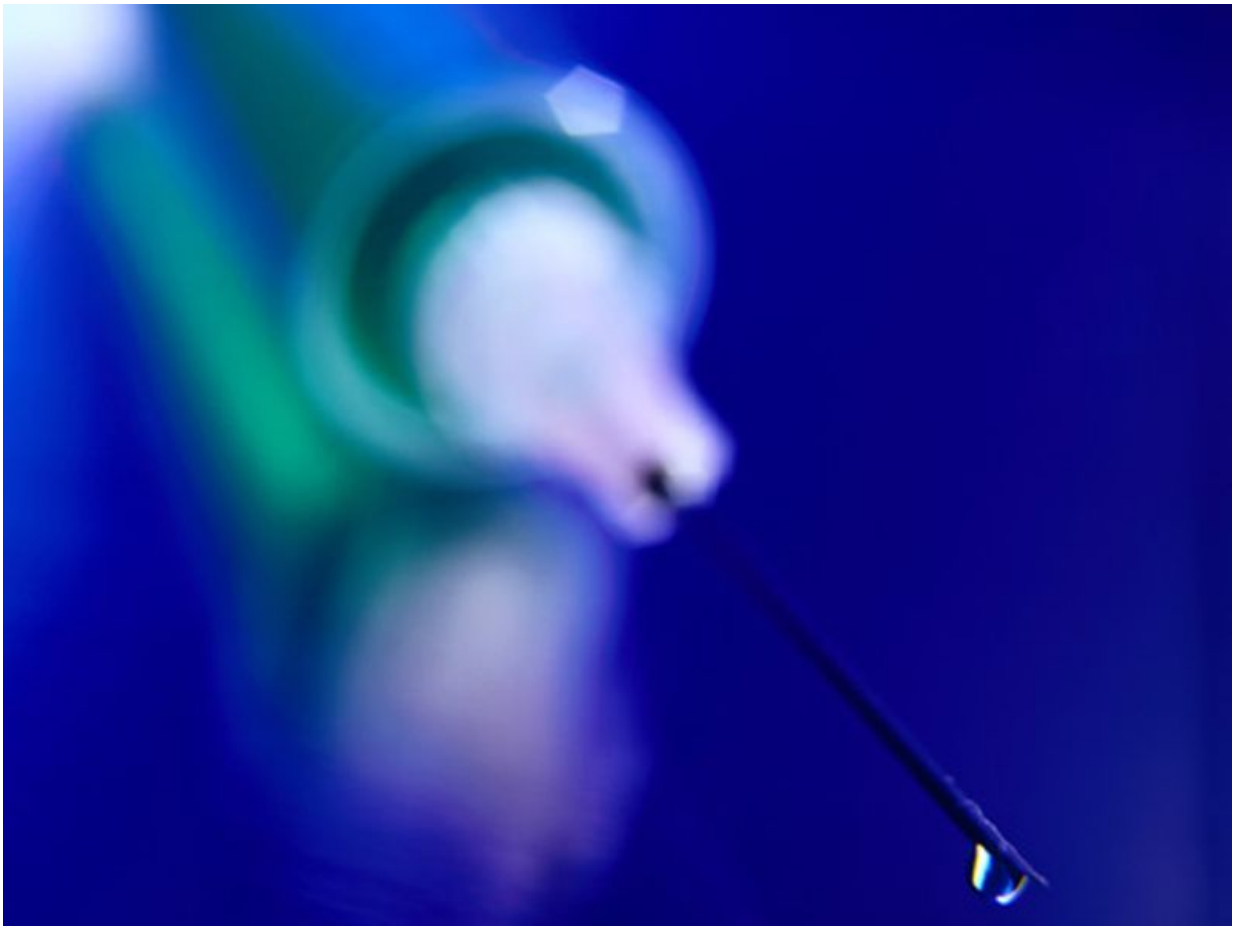

(HealthDay)—Sugammadex at a dose of 4 mg/kg^{-1} of ideal body weight

allows for shorter reversal of deep neuromuscular blockade in morbidly obese patients, according to a study published in the March issue of *Anaesthesia*.

Thibault Loupec, M.D., from the University of Poitiers in France, and colleagues conducted a single-center randomized trial in 50 morbidly obese patients. Neuromuscular blockade was monitored using acceleromyography at the adductor pollicis. Patients were randomized to sugammadex 4 mg/kg^{-1} (high-dose group), 2 mg/kg^{-1} (middle-dose group), and 1 mg/kg^{-1} (low-dose group) of ideal body weight at the end of surgery with deep rocuronium-induced neuromuscular blockade.

The researchers found that the mean recovery time from deep neuromuscular blockade was significantly shorter in the high-dose group versus the middle- or low-dose group after administration of the first dose of sugammadex (255 versus 429 and 581 seconds, respectively; P

"In morbidly obese patients, 4 mg/kg^{-1} of ideal body weight of sugammadex allows suitable reversal of deep rocuronium-induced neuromuscular blockade," the authors write. "Monitoring remains essential to detect residual curarisation or recurarisation."

One author disclosed financial ties to Merck Sharp & Dohme.

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