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Muscle

METHOXYFLURANE Muscular relaxation caused by methoxyflurane was tested by its effect on electromyographic reflexes. The tibial nerve, which carries afferent and efferent fibers, was stimulated. This produces a quick and direct muscular response via the neuromuscular synapse (potential A) and a reflex via the spinal cord (potential B). During general anesthesia with methoxyflurane, potential A was not influenced while potential B was decreased and finally disappeared. (*Droh, R., Sollberg, G., and Gottaid, A.: Electrophysiological Investigations of the Muscle-relaxing Effects of Methoxyflurane, Der Anaesthetist 17: 51 (Feb.) 1968.*)

MUSCLE PAIN Postoperative muscle pain occurred in 104 of 500 patients following the use of succinylcholine. Pain occurred more frequently in women than in men. The highest incidence occurred in patients between 14 and 40 years of age. There is no direct relation between the amount of succinylcholine used and the incidence of pain. Neostigmine, 0.5 mg three times a day, caused a significant decrease in muscle pain. No explanation is available for this effect. (*Brochert, K.: The Problem of Muscle Pain after Succinylcholine, Der Anaesthetist 17: 189 (June) 1968.*)