

# Medication Safety - Medication Look-Alike Alert Lidocaine and Rocuronium

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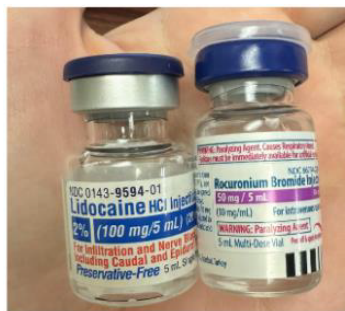
## **SAFETY ISSUE: Medication Look-Alike Alert - Lidocaine and Rocuronium**

**Situation** - There is a potential for a medication mix-up due to similar product packaging for lidocaine and rocuronium vials.

**Background** - Both lidocaine and rocuronium are commonly used in procedural areas.

- Lidocaine, a local anesthetic, is packaged in a vial with a blue flip top
- Rocuronium, a paralyzing agent, was previously packaged with a yellow flip top.

**Rocuronium vials packaged by Piramal have a “blue flip top” and the words “paralyzing agent” are less visible as compared to the yellow flip tops.**



Lidocaine Rocuronium



**Assessment** - The similarity of the product packaging for lidocaine and rocuronium vials (packaged by Piramal) increases the potential for a medication mix-up and medication error.

## **Recommendation** -

1. The medication name and concentration or strength **must always be validated** when a medication is removed from inventory (to include automated dispensing cabinets) and prior to administration of a medication.
2. Ensure **all safeguards** are in place (auxiliary labeling, storage, etc.) and consider purchasing alternative products if concern remains over similar packaging.



Please share this communication with anyone who may utilize lidocaine and rocuronium vials.