

### Alimemazine

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#### Respiratory depression in a child: case report

Profound respiratory depression occurred in a 4-year-old-boy 4 hours after an uneventful tonsillectomy. One hour before surgery he had been premedicated with alimemazine 60mg syrup.

IM pethidine [meperidine] 15mg had been administered for postoperative analgesia, but was not thought to cause the respiratory depression as the patient showed no improvement after IV naloxone (total dose 200µg). Ventilatory support was initiated and the patient's condition gradually improved.

**Author comment:** *'We feel that the routine use of trimeprazine [alimemazine] as a paediatric premedicant should be re-evaluated.'*

Chambers FA, et al. Delayed profound respiratory depression after premedication with trimeprazine. *Anaesthesia* 47: 585-586, Jul 1992 - Ireland 800149239