

■ **Suxamethonium chloride had an antidysrhythmic effect in a patient with supraventricular tachycardia** and respiratory failure, reports a researcher from Australia. The patient was a 67-year-old man who had received bypass grafting for ischaemic heart disease some 10 years earlier. After presentation, the patient received adenosine and amiodarone, neither of which resolved the dysrhythmia. He was intubated for transport and approximately 20 seconds after the administration of suxamethonium chloride 100mg, he reverted to sinus rhythm. The researcher notes that *"this case is reported not to suggest that suxamethonium be used outside its current indications, but to illustrate the profound effect it has on both nicotinic and muscarinic receptors"*.

Gibson J. Unusual effect of suxamethonium. *Anaesthesia and Intensive Care* 32: 290, No. 2, Apr 2004 800974674