

# ANESTHESIA FOR THE PATIENTS WHO USE MARIJUANA

## CANNABIS MNEMONIC

### C

**Cardiovascular complications  
(MI/arrhythmias)**

Consider delaying procedure 1 hr post acute use  
Consider EKG/Echo  
Avoid drugs that affect HR

### A

**Airway hyperreactivity  
(cough/secretions/edema)**

Consider premedication  
Deep extubation  
Use steroids for edema

### N

**Neurological and Psychological complications  
(Stroke/Psychosis/Paranoia)**

Consider pre and post Neuro Assessment  
Anticipate aggressive behavior on emergence

### N

**Narcotics (higher medication needs)**

Anticipate higher dose requirements for sedatives, narcotics and volatile anesthetics

### A

**Aspiration precautions  
(delayed gastric emptying)**

RSI  
Consider need for longer NPO time

### BIS

**Inaccurate monitoring**

BIS elevated

- Obtain history: with higher use the likelihood of complications increases
- Evaluate mental status in acute use, consider obtaining a proxy consent
- Consider obtaining a PT/INR prior to neuroaxial and regional blocks
- Anticipate potential difficulty voiding post procedure
- Consider Sevoflurane as the gas of choice