

Clinical Scenario – RT and TASERS

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TASERs and RT

Q. Would you amend your RT prescription for use after a TASER event?



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- **Withhold?**
- **Give same prescription?**
- **All the same medicines?**
- **Same doses? And routes?**
- **Timeframe?**



TASERs and RT

- Ventricular fibrillation (VF) is either induced, or not, within 1–5 secs of electrical shock
- Cardiac pulse disappears within seconds
- No increased risk of a later VF after previous shocks as electrical current isn't stored in the body¹
- Taser shocks do not result in a 'cumulative dose' of electricity² - as would occur with medication



1. Kroll M.W. (2009) Physiology and pathology of TASER electronic control devices. *Journal of Forensic & Legal Medicine*, 16: 173–177. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10354-018-0616-4>.

2. Jauchem, J.R. (2015) Exposures to conducted electrical weapons (including Taser devices): how many and for how long are acceptable? *Journal of Forensic Science*, 60 (suppl. 1): S116–129. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1556-4029.12672>