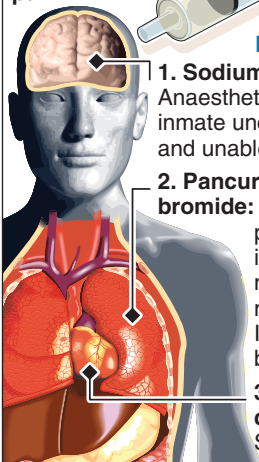


# Lethal injection trial

For the first time in over a century the U.S. Supreme Court is to hear arguments about whether to ban the lethal three-drug cocktail used in most executions because it can inflict excruciating pain



## 1. Sodium thiopental:

Anaesthetic leaves inmate unconscious and unable to feel pain

## 2. Pancuronium bromide:

Paralytic prevents involuntary muscle movements. Inmate stops breathing

## 3. Potassium chloride:

Stops heart

*Critics say that if initial anaesthetic is not administered properly, other two drugs can cause excruciating pain – but paralyzing drug would prevent any expression of pain*