Subject: Scope of Practice/Procedure – ALS
Ketamine Hydrochloride (Ketalar)

Associated Policies:

I. Class:
   A. Anesthetic (high dose); analgesic (low dose)

II. Indications:
   A. Patient in pain

III. Therapeutic Effects:
   A. Blocks impulses of pain perception.
   B. Suppresses spinal cord activity.
   C. Affects CNS transmitter systems.
   D. Provides anesthesia with profound analgesia and minimal respiratory depression and minimal skeletal muscle relaxation.

IV. Contraindications
   A. Known hypersensitivity to Ketamine
   B. Patients with known schizophrenia
   C. Neonates

V. Relative:
   A. Pregnancy.

VI. Adverse Effects:
   A. Dysrhythmia, tachycardia, bradycardia
   B. Nausea/ vomiting
   C. Emergence reactions including confusion, hallucinations and/or delirium.
      1. Less common in Pediatric patients and patients > 65 years of age
      2. Administering concomitant benzodiazepines may blunt the emergence phenomena.

VII. Administration and Dosage – ADULTS and PEDIATRICS
   A. Analgesia
      IV: 0.3mg/kg diluted in at least 100cc NS and infused over 10 minutes
      IM: 0.3 mg/kg
      IN: 0.5mg/kg
      Maximum dose of 30 mg.

VIIII. Special Information:
   A. Patients should be advised of medication administration and subsequent side effects.
   B. Continuous respiratory and cardiac monitoring is required.
   C. Monitor closely for signs of emergence phenomena and administer benzodiazepines for severe anxiety per Policy # 6552.

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Associated Policies:

D. Monitor closely for adverse side effects.
E. Do not administer more than 1cc volume via IN.