

Subject: ALS Medication – Paramedic
Ketamine Administration Policy

- I. Class
 - Anesthetic (high dose); analgesic (low dose)
- II. Indications
 - Patient with moderate to severe 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. Absolute:
 - 1. Known hypersensitivity to Ketamine
 - 2. Patients with known schizophrenia
 - 3. Neonates
 - B. Relative:
 - 1. Pregnancy.
- V. Administration and Dosage
 - A. Adult
 - 1. Analgesia:
 - a. IV: 0.3mg/kg diluted in 100cc NS and infused over 10 minutes OR 0.3mg/kg slow IVP.
 - b. IM: 0.3 mg/kg
 - c. IN: 0.5mg/kg
 - Maximum dose of 30 mg.
 - 2. Sedation:
 - a. IV: 1-2 mg/kg Slow IV/IO push
 - b. IM: 4mg/kg
 - B. Pediatric (less than 14 years)
 - 1. Analgesia:
 - a. IV: 0.3mg/kg diluted in 100cc NS and infused over 10 minutes OR 0.3mg/kg slow IVP.
 - b. IM: 0.3 mg/kg
 - c. IN: 0.5mg/kg
 - Maximum dose of 30 mg.

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2. Sedation:
 - a. IV: 1-2 mg/kg Slow IV/IO push.
 - b. IM: 4mg/kg

VI. Continuous Drip for Interfacility Transports

All Age Groups

1. Paramedics may monitor Ketamine drips during Interfacility Transports when an IV pump is used and has been infusing at the sending facility for at least 30 minutes.
2. Typical dose range of 0.5mg/kg/hr. to a maximum of 3mg/kg/hr.

VII. Special Information

- A. Adverse effects can include dysrhythmia, tachycardia, bradycardia, nausea and vomiting.
- B. Emergence reactions including confusion, hallucinations and/or delirium
- C. Less common in Pediatric patients and patients > 65 years of age
- D. Administering concomitant benzodiazepines may blunt the emergence phenomena.
- E. Patients should be advised of medication administration and subsequent side effects.
- F. Continuous respiratory and cardiac monitoring is required.
- G. Monitor closely for signs of emergence phenomena and administer benzodiazepines for severe anxiety per Benzodiazepine Administration policy.
- H. Monitor closely for adverse side effects.
- I. Do not administer more than 1cc volume via IN

VIII. Base Orders

Standing Order if no contraindications exist.