Reference: 4000.1 Effective: 2023 Review: 2025 Page: 1 of 1

Ketamine (Ketalar)

| Class of Drug | Anesthetic (Dissociative) |
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| Mechanism of Action | A rapid-acting general anesthetic producing an anesthetic state characterized by profound analgesia, normal pharyngeal-laryngeal reflexes, normal or slightly enhanced skeletal muscle tone, cardiovascular and respiratory stimulation, and occasionally a transient and minimal respiratory depression. |
| Indications | Induction agent for Rapid Sequence Intubation. Procedural/post RSI sedation. Pain control after, or in lieu of, narcotic analgesia. |
| Contraindications | Contraindicated in those whom a significant elevation of blood pressure would constitute a serious hazard and those who have shown hypersensitivity to the drug. |
| Adverse Effects | Rare, associated with rapid infusion: respiratory depression, laryngospasm. Others: emergence delirium, nausea/vomiting fasciculations, bradycardia, hypertension, or hypotension |
| Precautions | Risk/benefit consideration in pregnancy – increased uterine tone. Resuscitative equipment should be available for use. |
| Dosing/Administration | Induction for RSI: Adult: 2 mg/kg onset 30 seconds, duration 5-10 minutes Pediatric: same as adult Sedation/ongoing post RSI sedation: Adult: 0.5-1 mg/kg every 10-30 minutes IV as needed Pediatric: same as adult Pain acute: Adult: 0.1-0.35 mg/kg IV may repeat every 10-30 minutes as needed Pediatric: Same as adult |
| Pregnancy Category | Pregnancy Class: C |