

**KETAMINE**

For resistant status epilepticus only. For acute pain see "[guideline for ketamine subcutaneous infusion for acute pain](#)"

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>PRESENTATION:</b>            | Vials containing 500mg in 10ml, 50mg/1ml of ketamine.  |
| <b>INDICATION:</b>              | Resistant status epilepticus. (unlicensed use)   |
| <b>DOSE AND ADMINISTRATION:</b> | <p>The evidence on the use of ketamine, it is mostly based on isolated case reports. From the information available:<br/>Loading dose of 50mg.<br/>Maintenance infusion of 1-5mg/kg/hr.</p> <p><b>ICU STANDARD INFUSION</b></p> <p><b>Loading dose:</b><br/>50mg (1ml) undiluted, intravenously, over at least one minute.</p> <p><b>Continuous infusions:</b><br/>2500mg in 50ml undiluted.<br/>For a 70kg patient, 1mg/kg/hr is 1.4ml/hr (70mg/hr).</p> <p>Ketamine does <b>not</b> need to be administered in a locked syringe in intensive care.</p> |
| <b>CONCENTRATION:</b>           | 50mg/ml  |
| <b>STABILITY:</b>               | Physically and chemically stable for 24 hours at room temperature.   |

**References:**

1. Kramer A.H. Early ketamine to treat refractory status epilepticus. Neurocrit Care (2012) 16: 299-305.
2. Shorvon S, Ferlisi M. The treatment of super-refractory status epilepticus. Brain. 2011;134(10):2802-2818.
3. Chen JWY, Wasterlain CG. Status epilepticus: pathophysiology and management in adults. Lancet Neurol 2006; 5:246-56.
4. Sheth RD, Gidal BE. Refractory status epilepticus: response to ketamine. Neurology. Dec 1998;51:1765.
5. Synowiec AS, Singh DS, Yenugadhati V, Valeriano JP, Schramke CJ et al. Ketamine use in the treatment of refractory status epilepticus. Epilepsy Research 2013 in press.
6. UKCPA Minimum Infusion Volumes. Critical Care Group 2012.

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Title: Ketamine</b>           |  |
| <b>ID:</b>                       | <b>Authors:</b> Morag R Naysmith Checked by Sheila Selkirk |
| <b>Status Draft/Final:</b> FINAL | <b>Approved by:</b> QIT editorial group                    |
|                                  | <b>Written:</b> August 2016                                |
| <b>Reviewed on:</b> May 2018     | <b>Next review :</b> August 2019                           |