



El Dorado County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Quick Reference

Revised Date: July 1, 2020

Medication Profile

Ketamine
(Ketalar)

Class:

Dissociative anesthetic

Action:

N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor antagonist with a potent anesthetic effect. Induces a trance-like state while providing pain relief, sedation, and memory loss.

Onset: 1-2 minutes

Peak: Immediate

Duration: 15-20 minutes

Adult Administration:

0.3mg/kg slow IV/IO over 1 minute (Max=30mg) or 0.5mg/kg IN (Max=50mg)
May repeat every 10 minutes (Max cumulative dose 100mg)

Pediatric Administration:

0.3mg/kg slow IV/IO/IN over 1min (Max 15mg)
May repeat every 10min (max 4 doses)

Indications:

Severe pain

Contraindications:

Hypersensitivity/allergy
GCS < 15
RR < 12
SBP < 100
Pregnancy
Multi-system trauma
Active bleeding

Side Effects:

CV: Hypertension, arrhythmias
CNS: Seizure like activity

Pregnancy:

Unknown

Notes:

- Fast IV administration can result in transient apnea, administer slow over 1 minute.
- Should be used if pain is not managed by Acetaminophen/Ketorolac or Acetaminophen/Ketorolac Contraindicated.