



Yolo County Emergency Medical Services Agency

Quick Reference

Revised Date: June 1, 2023

Medication Profile

Ketamine
(Ketalar)

Class:

Dissociative anesthetic

Action:

N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor antagonist with a potent anesthetic effect.

Onset: 1-2 minutes

Peak: Immediate

Duration: 15-20 minutes

Indications:

Severe pain

Contraindications:

Hypersensitivity/allergy

GCS < 15 or agitation

RR ≤ 12

SBP ≤ 100

Side Effects:

CV: Hypertension, arrhythmias

CNS: Seizure like activity

Notes:

- Fast IV administration can result in transient apnea, administer slow over 1 minute.
- May be administered in addition to Acetaminophen or Ketorolac for patients in severe pain.

This document is not a substitute for Protocols and Procedures.

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