

Sub-dissociative Dose Ketamine for Analgesia in the ED

- Key resource - ACEP Policy Resource and Education Paper
<https://www.acep.org/globalassets/new-pdfs/preps/sub-dissociative-dose-ketamine-for-analgesia---prep.pdf>
- Effectiveness comparable to IV opioid and safe side effect profile
- Most common side effects: nausea, dizziness, mild neuropsychological reaction (agitation, hallucination, dysphoria) – Most often self-limited
- It's recommended to warn the patient that they might feel a bit "high/loopy" (anecdotally from discussion at Grand Rounds)
- Emergence phenomenon rare
- 0.1-0.3 mg/kg bolus over 10 to 15 min +/- continuous infusion at 0.15-0.2 mg/kg/hr
Example: Ketamine 0.15mg/kg IV over 20minutes
- Same provisions and protocols as other typical emergency analgesics

Reference

1. ACEP. (2017). Sub-dissociative Dose Ketamine for Analgesia Policy Statement. *www.acep.org*
2. ACEP. (2017). Sub-dissociative Dose Ketamine for Analgesia Policy Resource and Education Paper (PREP). *www.acep.org*
3. Heitz, C., Morgenstern, J., Bond, C., & Milne, W. K. (2019). Hot Off the Press: A Systematic Review And Meta-analysis of Ketamine as an Alternative to Opioids for Acute Pain in the Emergency Department. *Academic Emergency Medicine, 26(8), 946-948. doi:10.1111/acem.13658*
4. Karlow, N., Schlaepfer, C. H., Stoll, C. R. T., Doering, M., Carpenter, C. R., Colditz, G. A., . . . Schwarz, E. S. (2018). A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis of Ketamine as an Alternative to Opioids for Acute Pain in the Emergency Department. *Academic Emergency Medicine, 25(10), 1086-1097. doi:10.1111/acem.13502*
5. Motov, S., Mai, M., Pushkar, I., Likourezos, A., Drapkin, J., Yasavolian, M., . . . Fromm, C. (2017). A prospective randomized, double-dummy trial comparing IV push low dose ketamine to short infusion of low dose ketamine for treatment of pain in the ED. *The American Journal of Emergency Medicine, 35(8), 1095-1100. doi:https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajem.2017.03.004*
6. Pourmand, A., Mazer-Amirshahi, M., Royall, C., Alhawas, R., & Shesser, R. (2017). Low dose ketamine use in the emergency department, a new direction in pain management. *The American Journal of Emergency Medicine, 35(6), 918-921. doi:https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajem.2017.03.005*