



Ketamine Gap Analysis and Toolkit Development to  
Increase its Use by Anesthesia Providers in the  
Perioperative Setting

***Russell Lynn Memorial Student Lecture Series***

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# Introduction

- Basic Overview
  - Ketamine has been in use since 1966 having been found to have both anesthetic and analgesic properties (Domino, Chodoff, & Corssen, 1965).
  - Despite its known efficacy and utility, ketamine remains rarely used as anesthesia providers are commonly in favor of other agents (Green, 2000).
- Intervention: Develop and introduce a ketamine workshop and toolkit for New Jersey Association of Nurse Anesthetists (NJANA) membership to use based on the data obtained from a pre-intervention gap analysis survey.
- Practice Change and Outcomes Implications
  - With a toolkit on ketamine, anesthesia providers may **increase** its use and **improve** patient outcomes.

# Background and Significance

- Problem:
  - Ketamine has developed a stigma that has caused anesthesia providers to be biased against its use, despite research recommending its use (Kurdi, Theerth, & Deva, 2014).
  - Anesthesia providers, patients, and healthcare systems are affected.
- Ketamine Utility:
  - NMDA antagonism results in analgesic properties that allow ketamine to be included in opioid free or sparing techniques (Boysen, Pappas, & Evans, 2018).
  - Greater than 80% of patients undergoing surgery do not have their pain adequately managed leading to increased mortality, delay of recovery, and prolonged opioid use contributing to the opioid epidemic (Koepke et al., 2018).
  - Potentially useful in patients with chronic pain, whose health care costs based on health-care expenditure and lost productivity exceed the same costs associated with cancer, heart disease, and diabetes (Gan, 2017).
  - May serve as the prototype for new class of rapid acting antidepressants and those with treatment resistant depression (Vadivelu et al., 2016)

# Implications

- Impact on Healthcare Quality and Safety:
  - Increased provider competency and comfortability
  - Potentially improve post-operative pain scores along with decreased post-operative opioid use (Barreveld et al., 2013)
  - Potentially combat the current opioid epidemic that is rampant in the United States
  - Explore other non-opioid drugs for the use in the clinical setting



# Aim and Objectives

- Develop a ketamine workshop and readily accessible toolkit based on the needs of the NJANA membership.
  - Perform a **pre-intervention survey** to the NJANA membership
    - **Assess** gap in ketamine knowledge, barriers to use, comfortability and frequency of use among CRNAs and RRNAs.
    - **Determine** if the CRNAs and RRNAs are willing to implement ketamine into their anesthetic plan if provided with a toolkit for indications and usage.
    - **Assess** how CRNAs and RRNAs would prefer to have ketamine resources provided to them
  - **Provide** CRNAs and RRNAs knowledge on ketamine through a workshop and supplemental toolkit based on pre-intervention survey results at the NJANA fall symposium.
  - **Establish** a sustainable ketamine toolkit on the NJANA website for project sustainability.
  - **Evaluate** the efficacy of the ketamine toolkit, by assessing how many times the toolkit was accessed through NJANA website analytics.

## Survey



### Ketamine Gap Analysis and Toolkit Development to Increase its Use by Anesthesia Providers in the Perioperative Setting

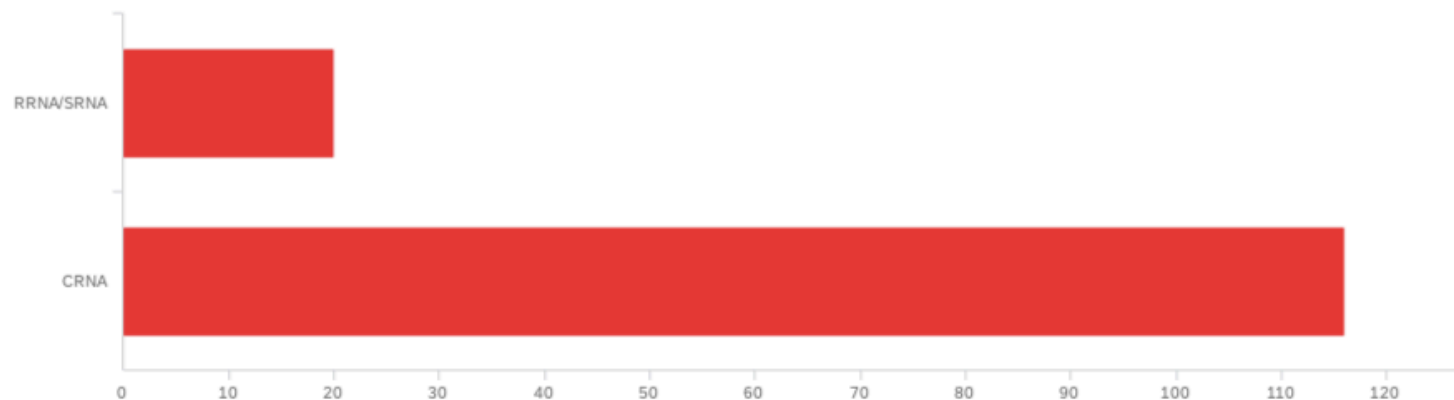
Pre-Intervention Survey					
Are you a RRNA or CRNA?	<input type="radio"/> RRNA/SRNA <input type="radio"/> CRNA				
What region of NJ do you primarily practice?	<input type="radio"/> Northern New Jersey <input type="radio"/> Central New Jersey <input type="radio"/> Southern New Jersey				
What is your primary practice setting?	<input type="radio"/> Hospital <input type="radio"/> Ambulatory Surgery Center <input type="radio"/> Office Based <input type="radio"/> Endoscopy Center <input type="radio"/> Pain Management Clinic <input type="radio"/> Other: _____				
Are you <b>currently working</b> in the clinical setting?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No				
Indicate the number of years of experience you have in clinical practice.	<input type="radio"/> Less than 1 year <input type="radio"/> 1-4 years <input type="radio"/> 5-10 years <input type="radio"/> Greater than 10 years <input type="radio"/> Resident/Student in clinical training <input type="radio"/> Resident/Student not in clinical training				
	1=Strongly Disagree	2=Disagree	3=Neutral	4=Agree	5=Strongly Agree
I feel comfortable with my current knowledge, indications, dosages, benefits and contraindications about the drug ketamine and its uses in the clinical setting?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I frequently implement ketamine in my anesthetic plan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have used ketamine in the clinical setting, other than for induction of anesthesia. (Subanesthetic doses)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A ketamine workshop and toolkit will be helpful to increase knowledge, comfortability and frequency of use.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What are the barriers preventing you from utilizing ketamine in your clinical practice? (Select all that apply)	<input type="radio"/> Institutional Policy <input type="radio"/> Undesired side effects <input type="radio"/> Lack of knowledge <input type="radio"/> Lack of comfortability/confidence <input type="radio"/> Lack of supply <input type="radio"/> Use is not recommended by peers <input type="radio"/> Unfavorable effect in past use <input type="radio"/> Other:
What form of delivery of the ketamine toolkit would best suit you to retain knowledge and sustain use of ketamine in the clinical setting?	<input type="radio"/> Printable Badge Buddy <input type="radio"/> One-page highlight sheet <input type="radio"/> PowerPoint slides <input type="radio"/> Infographic <input type="radio"/> Other:

# Data Collected

- Survey

- Our survey was published in July 2020 and was open to the members of the NJANA to complete until September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020.
- Various email reminders and social media posts by the NJANA were sent to encourage member participation.
- **136** participants completed the survey.





# Data Analysis

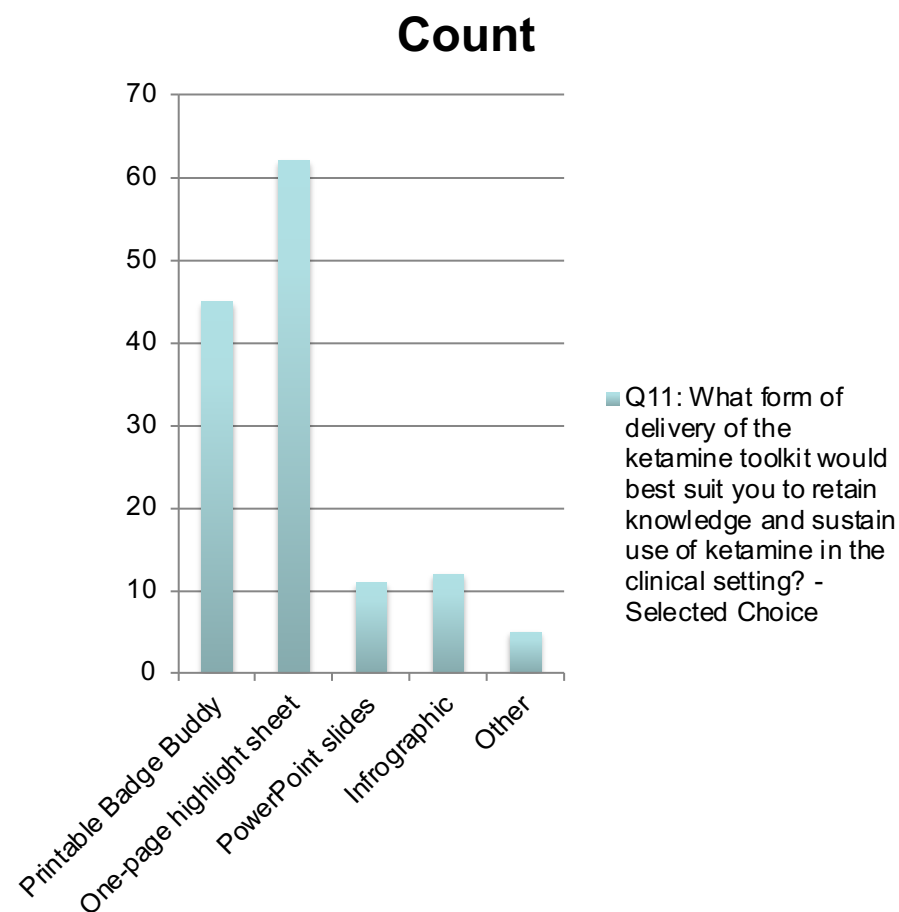
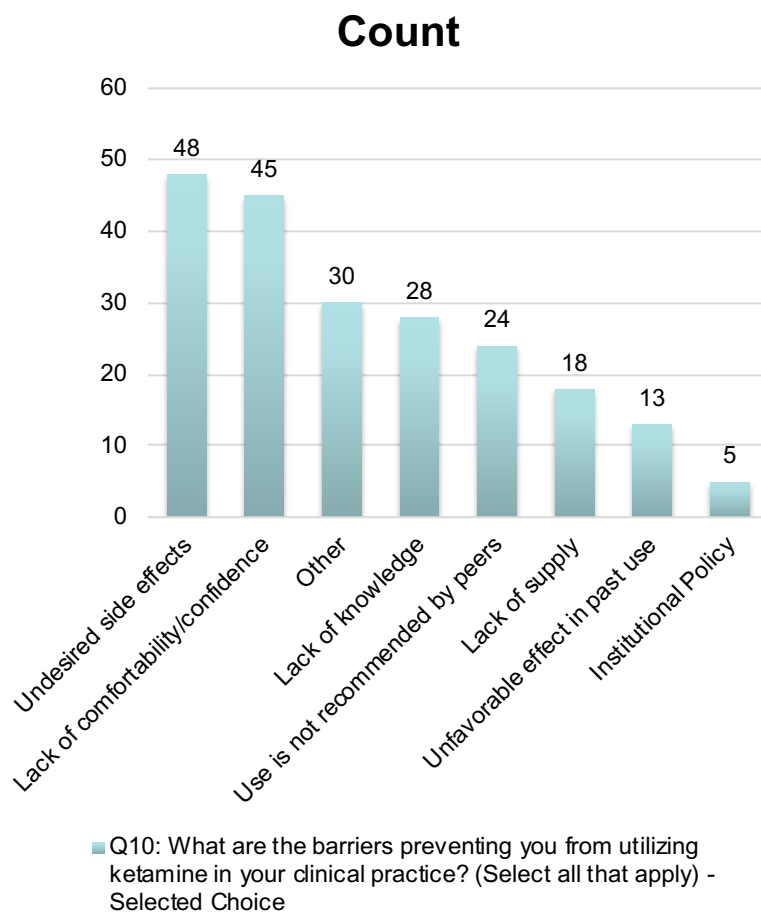
- When analyzing data obtained from the survey, the **Chi-Squared Test** was used to look for relationships.
- It was seen that there was a strong statistically significant relationship between people's comfort and knowledge of ketamine and how frequently they were to use it  **$p < 0.00001$** .
- There was a relationship between the number of years of practice and the comfort and knowledge of ketamine having a  **$p = 0.001$**
- Another relationship was seen between the area of practice in New Jersey and the comfort level of using ketamine  **$p = 0.003$**
- A strong relationship was seen in the use of sub anesthetic doses and the comfort level of ketamine knowledge  **$p < 0.00001$**



## Data Analysis (cont.)

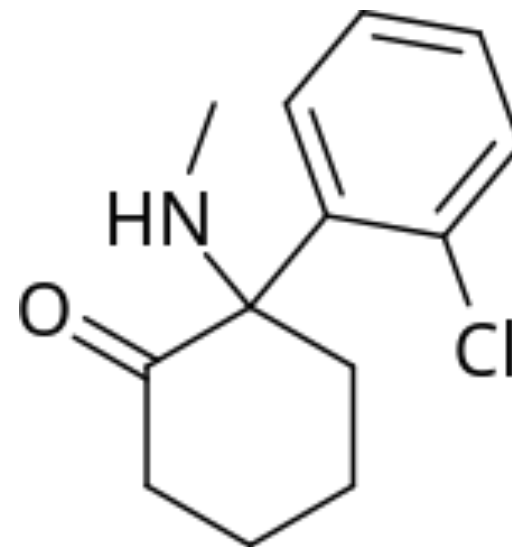
- When using ketamine in an anesthetic plan it appears there is a very strong relationship with its use in sub anesthetic doses  $p < 0.00001$ .
- There was no relationship seen with the primary area of practice and, frequency of use of ketamine  $p = .861$  or comfort level of current ketamine knowledge  $p = .638$
- 82.2% of respondents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that a ketamine workshop and tool kit would be helpful.

# Data Analysis



# What is Ketamine?

- **Phencyclidine derivative** found in the 1960s.
- Antagonist action at the **N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA)** receptors throughout the CNS.
- Metabolized in the **liver**.
  - active metabolite is **norketamine**.
  - Metabolites are then **excreted renally**.
- Routes of administration:
  - **IV, IM**, oral, transnasal, and rectal



# Standard Doses and Facts



- Ketamine does not cause hypotension or severe respiratory depression
  - Useful in trauma and patients with hypovolemia
- **Bronchodilator**
- Onset: 30 seconds
- **Induction:**
  - 1-2mg/kg IVP for adults and pediatrics
  - 4-6mg/kg IM
- **Obstetrics:**
  - 10mg IVP per dose PRN
- **Maintenance (adjunct with TIVA):**
  - 0.25-0.35mg/kg loading dose, followed by infusion up to 1mg/kg/hr
- **Sedation:**
  - 2.5-15mcg/kg/min IV
  - 1-2mg/kg IV over 2 minutes, repeat 0.5-1 mg/kg q15min
    - 0.25-0.5 mg/kg if you have concomitant sedation
- **Intranasal (acute pain):**
  - 0.2-1mg/kg, given in divided dose in each nostril
- **Rectal (pediatrics >1):**
  - 1.5-3mg/kg

# Review of Literature

- Reducing Post-Operative Opioid Use

- Kaur, Saroa, and Aggarwal (2015) demonstrated that 0.2mg/kg bolus and infusion of 0.1mg/kg/h at start of surgery and stopped at the end of the case, results in **reduced** pain scores and opioid requirements.
- Patients undergoing C-section under general anesthesia given 0.5mg/kg bolus and 0.25 mg/kg/h infusion resulted in **significantly decreased** morphine use 24 hours post-operatively (Haliloglu et al., 2016)
- Low dose ketamine was found to **significantly reduce** total opioid use and pain scores at 24 and 48 hours post-operatively in painful orthopedic surgery (Riddell et al., 2019).

- Psychomimetic Events

- Occurrence may be dose dependent and correlated with the lack of a benzodiazepine or other hypnotic agent. Bolus dose of <0.5mg/kg **do not** typically result in psychotic reactions (Gorlin et al., 2016).
- Incidence of psychomimetic events appear **rare** with sub-anesthetic doses given intra-operatively (Cohen et al., 2018).

# Review of Literature

- Immune Response

- Incorporating subanesthetic doses of ketamine (0.15mg/kg/IV bolus) prior to anesthetic induction can **decrease alterations in immune function** in the early post-operative period (Beilin et al., 2007).
  - Patients who received ketamine prior to induction were noted to have **significantly lower IL-6 and TNF-alpha markers** at 4 hours post-operative mark, compared to the control group
- Patients who received ketamine immediately prior to surgery or intraoperative had a **decreased IL-6 inflammatory response** (Dale et al., 2012).

- Sepsis

- Ketamine (2mg/kg/IV) was deemed a **safe and valuable induction agent** in the setting of a critically ill septic patient requiring rapid sequence intubation (Jabre et al., 2009).
  - **No significant differences in intubation conditions and morbidity rates** were noted in septic patients who received a single dose of ketamine or etomidate at induction.
  - Septic patients often are hypotensive due to cytokine release, however with ketamine adequate vascular tone is maintained

# Review of Literature

- Neurological Benefits

- Ketamine 0.5mg/kg/IV bolus given during anesthesia induction was found to **reduce incidences of post-operative cognitive dysfunction** in patients undergoing cardiac surgery (Hudetz et al., 2009).
  - Data showed that patients who received ketamine at induction had **lower levels of c-reactive protein**, which is associated with systemic inflammation and elderly cognitive deterioration, post-operatively compared to the control group.
- Ketamine 0.5mg/kg/infusion over 40 minutes can help **decrease explicit suicidal cognition and nonsuicidal-related depressive symptoms** in patients who are resistant to treatment (Price et al., 2014).
  - Treatment resistant depression is defined as patients who are on 3 or more antidepressants with no improvement.

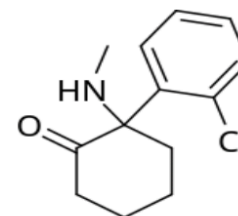


# Ketamine Review

- **Standard Induction Dose:** 1-2mg/kg
  - **Sepsis** dose: 2mg/kg/IV
- Give adequate dose of benzodiazepine or hypnotic agent with ketamine to **reduce psychomimetic events**
  - Bolus dose of <0.5mg/kg **does not** typically result in psychotic reactions
- **Reduction in post-op opioid use** dose:
  - 0.2mg/kg bolus followed by infusion at 0.1mg/kg/hr
- Decrease alterations in **immune function**:
  - 0.15mg/kg IV bolus prior to induction **decreased IL-6 and TNF-alpha markers** post operatively
- Neurological benefits:
  - 0.5mg/kg/IV bolus during induction **reduced incidences of post-operative cognitive dysfunction**
  - 0.5mg/kg infusion over 40 minutes **decreased suicidal cognition and nonsuicidal-related depressive symptoms**

# KETAMINE TOOLKIT

Easy toolkit with standard doses, drug facts and pertinent information



## WHAT IS KETAMINE?

- ☐ Is a **phenycyclidine** derivative
- ☐ **N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor antagonist** throughout the CNS
- ☐ Metabolized in the liver (**nor-ketamine is active metabolite**), **caution** in patients with **liver disease**
- ☐ **Renally** excreted
- ☐ Does not cause severe hypotension or severe respiratory depression
- ☐ **Increases CO, HR, BP and ICP**
- ☐ Great drug of choice for induction in trauma cases, without suspicion of head injury/trauma, and patients with hypovolemia and **sepsis (1-2mg/kg IVP)**
- ☐ **Bronchodilation** properties
- ☐ Patient can have **psychomimetic events**
- ☐ **Side Effects:** prolonged emergence, delirium, confusion, hallucinations, irrational behavior, increased salivation

## HOW CAN IT BE ADMINISTERED?

- ☐ IV, IM, Oral, transnasal, and rectal

## DOSES

- ☐ **Induction:**
  - o 1-2mg/kg/IVP for adults and pediatrics
  - o 4-6mg/kg IM
- ☐ **Maintenance** (adjunct to TIVA):
  - o 0.25-0.35mg/kg loading dose, followed by an infusion up to 1mg/kg/**hr**
- ☐ **Obstetrics (questionable neuraxial):**
  - o 10mg IVP per dose PRN
- ☐ **Sedation:**
  - o 2.5-15mcg/kg/min IV
  - o 1-2mg/kg IVP over 2 minutes repeat if necessary 0.5-1mg/kg IVP q15min
    - 0.25-0.5mg/kg if you have concomitant sedation
- ☐ **Intranasal (acute pain):**
  - o 0.2-1mg/kg, given in divided doses in each nostril
- ☐ **Rectal (pediatrics >1 **yr**)**
  - o 1.5-3mg/kg
- ☐ **Reducing post-operative opioid use:**
  - o 0.2mg/kg bolus followed by an infusion of 0.1mg/kg/**hr** at start of surgery
- ☐ **Immune Response:**
  - o 0.15mg/kg IV bolus prior to anesthetic induction was shown to decrease alterations in immune function in the early post-operative period
    - Shown to significantly **reduce IL-6 and TNF-alpha markers**
- ☐ **Neurological benefits:**
  - o 0.5mg/kg/IV bolus given during anesthesia was found to **reduce incidences of post-op cognitive dysfunction** in patients undergoing cardiac surgery
  - o 0.5mg/kg infusion over 40 minutes was found to help **decrease explicit suicidal cognition and nonsuicidal-related depressive symptoms**.

## HOW CAN YOU REDUCE PSYCHOMIMETIC EVENTS?

- ☐ Give **adequate dose of benzodiazepine (versed) or hypnotic agent (Propofol)** to reduce psychomimetic events
- ☐ Recommended to give **glycopyrrolate** to reduce salivation

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