

Through the K-Hole: KETAMINE.

Ketamine is a rapidly acting, non-barbiturate, dissociative general anaesthetic that preserves muscle tone, laryngeal reflexes and cardiorespiratory function. It is also a potent analgesic.

Useful in paediatric sedation, trauma and asthma:

1-2mg/kg IV (slow IV over 1 min) gives 5-10 mins of anaesthesia

2-4mg/kg IM gives 10-20mins of anaesthesia

There is often a transient hypertension that usually resolves after 15 minutes so think twice if this is going to be a problem.....previously thought to be an issue in raise ICP.....found to be false.

Half life: around 10 mins

Caution with:

- ENT procedures, URTI/LRTI (rare laryngospasm)
- EtOH
- Renal/Liver impairment (reduce dose)
- Hyperthyroidism (HTn)
- Acute intermittent porphyria
- Psychosis

Interact with:

- Narcotics, Sedatives, CNS depressants
- Theophylline (seizures)
- Thyroxine (prolonged HTn)

Emergence reactions:

- 10% of patients. Pleasant dreamy states/vivid hallucinations/agitation
- Let the pt recover in a darkened room