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## Low dose ketamin



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### ABSTRACT

*Ketamine binds non-competitive against a phencyclidine receptors bound N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA), a receptor that is involved in the pathophysiology of acute pain. Ketamine has been used as an intravenous anesthesia, analgesia for acute and chronic pain at a dose of subanaesthetic. Ketamine is a dissociative anesthetic produces a state with a characteristic strong analgesia, amnesia, and catalepsy. Dissociative components*

*resulting from the effect on the limbic system and talamoneokortikal. Low-dose ketamine as known as analgesia dose ketamine or subanesthesia dose is 0.2 to 0.75 mg / kg IV. At low doses, ketamine does not increase the effect psychomimetic like dissociation or deep sedation. The combination with midazolam provides satisfactory sedation, amnesia and analgesia without significant cardiovascular depression.*

**Keyword:** ketamin, low dose, pain, analgesia, dissociative

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### INTRODUCTION

Nociceptive stimulation cause hyper-excitability with the activation of N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor, a process that involved in acute pain pathophysiology. Ketamine, a non-competitive NMDA antagonist, used in sub-anesthetic dose can result in specific NMDA blockage and modulate central sensitization hence cause anti hyper-algesic effect.<sup>1</sup>

Ketamine has been used as an intravenous anesthetic. Ketamine has also been used as analgesic for acute and chronic pain in sub-anesthetic dose. Ketamine has several benefits as an analgesic. Ketamine does not depress cardiovascular function, protective larynx reflects, less depress ventilation compare to opioid, and reduce airway resistance. Thus, ketamine has significant role in postoperative pain management by reducing the total opioid needed, possible side effects, and giving hemodynamic and respiratory stability.<sup>2</sup>

Ketamine also has immune modulator property. Ketamine can prevent exacerbation and local inflammation expansion without disturbing inflammation resolution. Immune cell producing inflammation cytokine does not affected by ketamine if there is no inflammation stimulus. The immune regulation effect clearly can be seen if ketamine is used before the inflammation. This is one of reasons that ketamine is commonly used for induction before surgery.<sup>3</sup>

Small dose ketamine given before noxious stimulus can have benefit as well by preventing central sensitization which lead in decreasing the need for post operative analgesic.<sup>4</sup>

### NMDA (N-methyl-D-aspartate) Antagonist Receptor

Inotropic receptor divided into three subtypes based on the action of selective agonist:  $\alpha$ -amino-3-hidroxy-5-methylisoxazole-4-propionic acid (AMPA), kainic acid (KA), and N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA). Among those, NMDA receptor gets special consideration because its role in sympathetic stimulation transmission, plasticity, and central nervous system (CNS) neurodegenerative. This receptor is located in all neurons.<sup>5</sup>

NMDA (N-methyl-D-aspartate) receptor antagonist administered as an additional medication pain management. Receptor N-methyl-D Aspartate receptors are ligand-gated ion channel which allows the entry of calcium, sodium, potassium into cells. The receptor is activated by glutamate and glycine and is not opened when the membrane resting potential. Glutamate is the major excitatory neurotransmitter in the central nervous system has a significant role in the modulation of pain at the spinal cord level. This role in particular in sensitization of nociceptors after exposure to pain stimulation that increases the magnitude and duration of neurogenic responses to pain, even after the initials of a peripheral has been discontinued. These drugs carry antinociception effect by inhibiting central sensitization to pain stimulation.<sup>6</sup>

### Ketamine

Ketamine is a phencyclidine derivative (anesthetic used in veterinary medicine), noncompetitive NMDA receptor antagonist. Ketamine is used for intravenous induction of anesthesia in the world, especially in circumstances in which sympathetic

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stimulation is needed (hypovolemia, trauma). When intravenous access is not available, it can be used by intramuscular ketamine for induction in pediatric or adult who is not cooperative. Ketamine can be combined with other drugs (such as propofol or midazolam) in a small dose bolus or infusion for sedation during peripheral nerve blocks, endoscopy, and others. sub-anesthetic doses of ketamine can cause hallucinations (depending on dose), though in daily practice this effect is not so noticeable because of the provision of a combination with midazolam (or similar drugs) for amnesia and sedation.<sup>7</sup>

Ketamine is a dissociative anesthetic drug that produces, which is then marked by the dissociation of EEG between thalamocortical and limbic system. Dissociation anesthesia resembles cataleptic condition where the eyes are still open and slow nystagmus. Patients unable to communicate, even though he appeared conscious. Reflexes still maintained as the corneal reflex, cough reflex and swallowing reflex, but all these reflexes should not be considered as a protection against the airway. Hypertonus level variations and certain skeletal muscle movements often occur and are not dependent on the surgical stimulation.<sup>8</sup>

### Chemical structure

Ketamine, 2-(o-chlorophenyl)-2-(methylamino)-cyclohexanonehydrochloride, a arylcycloalkylamine which is structurally related to phencyclidine (PCP) and cyclohexamine. Ketamine hydrochloride is a water-soluble molecules, with a molecular weight of 238 and a pKa of 7.5. Although soluble in water, soluble in fat ten times compared with thiopentone, so quickly distributed to many organs, including the brain and heart, and then redistributed to organs with less perfusion. The existence of asymmetric carbon atoms produce two optical isomers of ketamine namely S (+) ketamine and R (-) ketamine. Commercial dosage forms of

racemic ketamine form containing both enantiomers in equal concentrations. Each enantiomer has a different potential. S (+) ketamine analgesia stronger, faster metabolism and recovery, lack of secretion of saliva and a low incidence of emergence reaction or nightmares / hallucinations than the R (+) ketamin.<sup>9</sup>

### Mechanism of action

Ketamine binds non-competitively against a phenylcyclohexylamine receptors bound N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA), a subtype of glutamate receptors, which are located in the ion channel. Ketamine inhibits the transmembrane ion flow. NMDA receptor is a receptor calcium channels. Endogenous agonist of the receptors are excitatory neurotransmitters such as glutamic acid, aspartic acid, and glycine. Activation of the receptor results in the opening of the ion channel and depolarization of the neuron. NMDA receptors are involved in the sensory input at the spinal level, thalamic, limbic and cortical bone. Ketamine inhibit or interfere with the sensory input to the central higher than the central nervous system, where there is an emotional response to the stimulus and the place for learning and memory. Ketamine inhibits activation of NMDA receptors by glutamate, reducing the release of glutamate in presynaptic and enhance the effects of the inhibitory neurotransmitter GABA.<sup>10</sup>

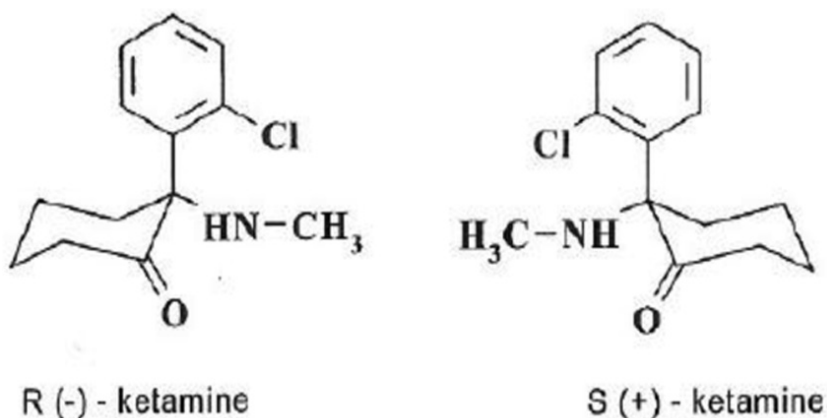
Ketamine also interact with mu receptors, delta and kappa opioid. Effects of ketamine analgesia may be caused by activation of this receptor in the central and spinal.<sup>9</sup>

Some effects of ketamine can be caused by work on the catecholamine system, by increasing dopamine activity. Dopaminergic effects may be related to the euphoric effects, addiction and psychotomimetic of ketamine. The work of ketamine is also caused by the effect of adrenergic agonists on the receptor  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , antagonistic effect on muscarinic receptors in the central nervous system, and the effects on receptor agonists  $\sigma$ .<sup>10</sup>

### PHARMACOKINETIC

#### a) Absorption

Ketamine can be used via the oral, nasal, rectal, subcutaneous, and epidural, even though in daily practice ketamine used intravenously or intramuscularly. Peak plasma levels achieved within 5-15 minutes after intramuscular injection, in 1 min after intravenous injection, and 30 minutes after oral administration. Absorption via the rectal ketamine in pediatric in a study can reach 45 minutes. Norketamine metabolite plasma concentrations higher than ketamine alone after oral administration.<sup>5</sup>



**Picture 1** Ketamine structure.

### b) Distribution

Ketamine is more soluble in fat and less protein bound (12%) compared to thiopental, which facilitates the transfer through the blood-brain barrier. Ketamine is distributed to a network with such high perfusion of the brain to reach the level of 4-5x higher than plasma. These characteristics increase cerebral blood flow and cardiac output, resulting in a rapid uptake by the brain and subsequent redistribution (half distribution of 10-15 minutes). Employment effects of ketamine disappeared with redistribution from rich network of blood vessels to less tissue blood vessels. Awakening due to redistribution of the brain compartment perifer.<sup>6</sup>

### c) Metabolism

Ketamine is metabolized in the liver into several metabolites, one of which is norketamin which retains the anesthetic activity. The most important metabolic pathways involving N-demethylation by cytochrome p450 into norketamin. Norketamin then hydroxylated and conjugated into water soluble components that will be excreted in the urine. Uptake liver (hepatic extraction ratio of 0.9) describes the elimination half-life of ketamine relatively short (1-2 hours) and depends on the hepatic blood flow changes. Co-administration with diazepam can extend the half-life of ketamine and its metabolite.<sup>6</sup>

### d) Excretion

Ketamine metabolic end products excreted through the kidneys, with a small percentage is found in the urine in the form intact. Elimination half-life 2 hours, which is due to a combination of rapid clearance and volume of distribution were great. It has been reported in pediatric research studies that the elimination of ketamine two times faster than adult.<sup>11,12</sup>

## PHARMACODYNAMIC

### a) Central Nervous System.

Ketamine produces a state described as a dissociative anesthetic with characteristics of strong analgesia, amnesia, and catalepsy. The dissociative components resulting from the effect on the limbic system and thalamoneocortical. In this condition it is said that the brain fails transduction afferent impulses properly because of interference with the normal communication between the sensory and cortical association areas. The result resembles catalepsy that both eyes remain open with nystagmus, and corneal reflexes are intact. Patients are generally non-communicative although they are awake. Varying degrees of skeletal muscle hypertonus may occur. Involuntary skeletal muscle

contraction can occur during surgery. The ketamine users has its own difficulties in assessing the level of sedation or anesthesia because it cannot use the sign of eyes movement, muscle tone or movement of the patient as an indicator. Effects of ketamine on the above characteristics are not consistent with the classic signs of anesthesia. Ketamine interacts with more than one type of receptors to produce a variety of effect.<sup>11</sup>

Some part of analgesia effect are mediated by opioid receptors in the brain, spinal and peripheral. Ketamine also interact with opioid receptors sigma/phenylcyclidine binding sites. Sigma component may mediate dysphoria generated by ketamine.<sup>7</sup>

Place of work involving NMDA receptor ketamine (N-methyl-D-aspartate). This receptor plays a major role in the transmission of sensory information and mediates the excitation of neurons in the central nervous after the arrangement of interacting with excitatory neurotransmitter. Inhibition of NMDA gives effect of catalepsy.<sup>7</sup>

Ketamine produces anti-nociceptive effect through interactions with mu receptors on the spine, antagonis NMDA receptors, and activation of descending mono-aminergic pain inhibitory pathways. Affinity in NMDA receptors greater than against mu receptors, and is much larger than the monoamine receptor or other non-NMDA receptors (e.g. sigma receptor and acetylcholinesterase), which causes the smaller dose of ketamine are increasingly selective NMDA receptors interact with ketamine.<sup>6</sup>

Potential effects of ketamine disabling muscle depends in large doses. This mechanism may involve cholinergic muscarinic receptors. Ketamine can turn on a wave of epilepticform in patients with convulsion disorders.<sup>11</sup>

Emergence is the most frequent side effects reported. The reaction was described as a sense of drift, dream that seem obvious, hallucinations, and delirium. To this effect the incidence ranges from 5-30%. Benzodiazepine uses can reduce this effect.<sup>12</sup>

Ketamine dogma against the order of the central nervous causes an increase in the consumption of oxygen on cerebral blood flow, cerebral, and increased intracranial pressure. Ketamine vasodilatory blood vessels of the brain that causes an increase in cerebral blood flow by as much as 62-80%. This effect is reduced when the diazepam, midazolam, or tiopental given before ketamine. These effects hinder the use of ketamine in patients with intracranial space occupying lesion in or head trauma. The publication now offers convincing evidence that when combined with benzodiazepines (or another agent who works at the GABA receptors), and ventilation control, but not with nitrous oxide, ketamine does not increase

intracranial pressure. Psychotomimetic side effects (like a bad dream and delirium) when emergence is rare in pediatric patients or those with propofol or benzodiazepine.<sup>12</sup>

### **b) Respiration**

In patients with spontaneous breath, dispensing other general anesthesia can cause a rapid decrease in FRC (Functional Residual Capacity). With the decrease in lung volume during expiration, the small and thin-walled airway on the dependent lung has a tendency to collapse. The volume in which the airway closes so-called closing capacity. The effect of maintaining the FRC is guarantee the openness of the dependent part remains in the lung. This is important especially for pediatric, where closing capacity slightly less to the FRC than adults. In pediatrics, a small decrease of FRC may lead to closure of the airway for normal breathing, which can cause ventilation perfusion abnormalities were clinically shown as decreased oxygen saturation. Ketamin is considered unique in that it can sustain the FRC during induction of anesthesia.<sup>12</sup> During the administration of ketamine in patients breathing spontaneously, minute ventilation is maintained almost the same as the patient is awake. Minimal changes occurred in the absence of gas exchange and the incidence of atelectasis and shunting. This is because the skeletal muscle tone is maintained during the administration of ketamine (unlike in patients with volatile anesthetics) then atelectasis, ventilation-perfusion changes, and the FRC did not happen. Breathing is affected minimally by ketamine. Ketamine has other beneficial effects, including increased lung expansion and decreases airway resistance. The working mechanism of these effects has yet to be fully understood. Bronchodilatation is the result of inhibition of calcium channels by ketamine. Racemic ketamine is a potent bronchodilator, making it a good induction agent for asthma patients; however, S (+) ketamine has a minimal bronchodilator effect ketamine by continuous infusion is used as an asthma therapy that is unresponsive to conventional approaches. Airway reflexes preserved intact, but the partial airway obstruction may occur. Hypersalivation caused by ketamine may be reduced by administering anticholinergic agents such as premedication glycopyrrolate and atropine.<sup>11,12</sup>

### **c) Cardiovascular**

In contrast with other anesthetic agents, ketamine increases blood pressure, heart rate, and cardiac output, especially after rapid bolus injection. These indirect effects on cardiovascular due to central stimulation of the sympathetic nervous system and norepinephrine reuptake inhibition after being

released at the nerve terminals. Ketamine depress myocardial contractility, but this effect was offset by sympathetic stimulation. In addition, the ability of ketamine improves concentration inhibits the neuronal reuptake of catecholamines to also cover the negative inotropic effect of ketamine. Therefore, high doses of ketamine bolus injection should be administered with caution in patients with coronary heart disease, uncontrolled hypertension, congestive heart disease, blood vessel or aneurysm.<sup>7,12</sup>

These sympathomimetic effects will increase myocardial oxygen demand, therefore, ketamine is contraindicated in patients with ischemic heart disorders. Cardiac dysrhythmia is rare in the administration of ketamine, although studies in animals declared ketamine sensitize the myocardium causing effects such dysrhythmogenic with epinephrine. Based on cardiovascular effects, especially the ability to maintain blood pressure, ketamine administration is indicated in pediatric congenital cyanotic heart disease, patients with hypovolemic, and cardiogenic shock. In pediatric with cyanotic congenital heart disease, the amount of oxygen that can be taken by the lungs depends on pulmonary blood flow. Ketamine is used to lower the right to left shunt, which will maximize blood flow and pulmonary arterial pressure of oxygen.<sup>12</sup>

### **d) Temperature**

In the past, there is concern that ketamine trigger malignant hyperthermia. This is because ketamine can increase catecholamine circulation, which is regarded as the originator of malignant hyperthermia. Nevertheless ketamine does not trigger malignant hyperthermia in a study using a pig. This is reinforced by the recommendation of Malignant Hyperthermia Association of the United States.<sup>12</sup>

### **e) Inflammatory**

Inflammatory reaction aims to maintain body homeostasis. The goal is to fight infection and tissue injury. This is based on various stages of the reaction, each under the influence of a positive control (proinflammatory) or negative (anti-inflammatory). Inflammatory reaction occurs when the host immune cells such as macrophages, fibroblasts, mast cells, and dendritic cells, or leukocytes circulating detect pathogens or cell damage. The mechanism involves the detection of patterns Expressed surface receptor recognition that Toll receptors (TLRs), which play a major role in activating the immune cells of the host. As a consequence of this reaction, a transcription factor (NF- $\kappa$ B, AP1, CREB, C / EBP, and IRF) will be activated. Leukocytes that are in circulation will be directed to this area. The mediator histamine, prostaglandins and NO will cause local vasodilation. Under the

influence of histamine and leukotrienes, vascular permeability increases. Immune cells that are on the site of infection or injury will get rid of foreign objects with phagocytosis. At the same time it will release cytokines and other mediators begin the healing process.<sup>3,13</sup>

Regulation of inflammatory reactions occur at the level of the peripheral and central level. At the peripheral level, anti-inflammatory cytokines (receptor antagonist IL-1, IL-4, IL-10, interferon alfa) will be released by immune cells that would antagonize the inflammatory reaction (IL-1, IL-6, TNF  $\alpha$ ) kill the inflammatory cells. IL-6 will stimulate production of CRP (C-Reactive Protein) in the liver by activating kinase pathway. At the central level, when there is inflammation of peripheral there will be communication between immune cells and the central nervous system. The central nervous system is informed that there is 'something' in the periphery. Then modulation the central nervous system inflammation that this reaction occurs only in the peripheral alone. This is expressed by the dominance of Th-2 (anti-inflammatory) to the Th-1 (pro-inflammatory).<sup>3</sup>

Ketamine is said to affect inflammation. Ketamine significantly reduced the production of inflammatory cytokines without affecting the production of anti-inflammatory cytokines. Ketamine reduces exacerbation inflammatory reactions and hastens the resolution of inflammation by helping the inflammatory cell apoptosis. Ketamine had no effect on immune cells that produce inflammatory cytokines when there are no inflammatory stimulus. This regulatory effect is more meaningful when ketamine administered before inflammation. This is also the reason why ketamine given at induction of anesthesia before surgery. Ketamine at a dose of 0.5 mg/kg increase the ratio of Th1 / Th2 thus improving the patient's immune function. In some studies, ketamine lowers TNF  $\alpha$ , IL-6, IL-1

and IL-8, which in turn provide results such as reducing the acidosis and improve cure rates.<sup>3</sup>

## CLINICAL APPLICATIONS

Ketamine can be used for preoperative and intra-operative sedation, balance anesthesia, adjuvant regional anesthesia and postoperative analgesia. Ketamine is used for preoperative to reduce anxiety and facilitate the induction of general anesthesia. Intramuscular administration used in pediatrics. One study suggests intramuscular administration at a dose of 2 mg/kg resulted in rapid onset of dissociative effects begin at 2.7 minutes. Rectal administration at a dose of 10 mg/kg body weight for induction of general anesthesia preceded by premedication midazolam and atropine. Loss of consciousness occurs within 9-15 minutes. Ketamine has also been used for regional anesthesia and epidural.<sup>7</sup>

For sedation and analgesia, ketamine administered at subanesthetic dose of 0.2 to 0.75 mg/kg intravenous continuous infusion of 5-20 mcg/kg/min, 2-4 mg/kg intramuscularly. Ketamine's effect of analgesia achieved in plasma concentrations of 100-150ng/ml. A study says that analgesia is achieved by administering ketamine 125-250 mcg/kg. This dose is sufficient to achieve plasma concentrations of 100-150 ng/ml. Provision of ketamine 50 mcg/kg did not provide sufficient analgesia, but enough to make the drowsiness, the lowest dose provides analgesia is 75 mcg/kg.<sup>14</sup> Plasma concentrations can be achieved by a continuous infusion at a dose of 3-4 mcg/kg/min after the initial bolus and 14 mcg/kg/min without loading dose.<sup>15</sup> For general anesthesia, ketamine given at a dose of 1 to 4.5 mg/kg intravenously, 6.5-10 mg/kg intramuscularly.<sup>16</sup>

### Subanesthetic Dose of Ketamine (Low Dose Ketamin)

Low-dose ketamine also known as analgesia dose or subanesthetic dose is 0.2 to 0.75 mg/kg IV. Other literature mentions doses of analgesia achieved at 0.2-0.5 mg/kg IV. The analgesic effect is more pronounced in visceral pain than somatic pain. Ketamine effect is caused by activity in the thalamus and the limbic system is responsible for the interpretation of pain. At doses of 0.25-0.5 mg/kg IV given after midazolam 0.07 to 0.15 mg/kg IV ketamine is said to provide a satisfactory sedation, amnesia, and analgesia without significant cardiovascular depression. The incidence of emergency, the side effects of ketamine does not increase with small doses of ketamine. At a dose of 0.15 to 1 mg/kg IV did not increase psychomimetic effects such as hallucinations or deep sedation. The addition of

**Table 1 Advantages and disadvantages of ketamine.<sup>6</sup>**

Advantages	Loss
Analgesia at doses subanaesthetic	<i>Emergence</i>
Amnesia	Cardiovascular stimulation
Maintaining FRC	Minimal respiratory depression
Laryngeal reflexes are depressed minimally	Hypersalivation
Rapid onset	
Long predictable action	
Non-toxic metabolite	
Soluble in water	
Stable in solution	
No post-injection pain	

small doses of ketamine 0.5 mg/kg for induction propofol 1.5 mg/kg IV can reduce the incidence of desaturation and apnea.<sup>15</sup>

At a dose of 0.1-0.5 mg / kg IV ketamine provide satisfactory analgesia during surgery and the management of post-surgical pain, without any sedation or changes in hemodynamic and respiratory. Effects of nausea and vomiting are also much reduced at this dose.<sup>16</sup>

The use of low-dose ketamine with local anesthetic also has been widely applied with giving ketamine 0.05 mg/kg/hour IV infusion in addition to continuous epidural ropivacaine and morphine and obtained results that ketamine enhances the effects of ropivacaine-morphine analgesia and reduces pain post-thoracotomy.<sup>16</sup>

For the prevention of occurrence shivering in general anesthesia, ketamine prophylactic dose of 0.5 mg/kg IV given 20 minutes before the operation is over, have proven effective in preventing postoperative shivering. In spinal anesthesia, ketamine 0.5 mg/kg IV or ketamine 0.25 mg/kg IV+midazolam 37.5 mcg/kg IV can prevent the incidence of shivering after administration of 15 mg of bupivacaine.<sup>10</sup>

Ketamine given before incision has an effect on postoperative pain and reduce the need for analgesics. Put pain impulses during surgery and postoperative causes continuous stimulation of C fibers nociceptors and causes the release of glutamate. Glutamate is the primary neurotransmitter excitatory in the central nervous system which activates postsynaptic NMDA receptors. Activation of NMDA receptors contributes to processes such as wind-up pain and central sensitization. Activation of these receptors constantly plays a role in inflammatory and neuropathic pain process, which will lead to secondary hyperalgesia. Intervention analgesic before the pain stimulation may inhibit sensitization and reduce acute pain.<sup>4,17</sup>

The wind-up phenomenon is the basis of pre-emptive analgesia, which provides an analgesic before the onset of pain. By suppressing acute pain response as early as possible, pre-emptive analgesia may prevent or at least reduce the possibility of "wind-up". Ideally, analgesics has begun before surgery.<sup>10</sup>

## DRUG INTERACTIONS

Ketamine interacts synergistically with the volatile agent, propofol, benzodiazepines, and other agents mediated by GABA receptors. Diazepam and midazolam alter cardiac simultaneous effects of ketamine and diazepam extend the elimination half-life of ketamine. Nondepolarizing muscle relaxants are potentiated by ketamine.

The combination of theophylline with ketamine may predispose patients to seizures. Halothane slows down distribution and inhibits the hepatic metabolism of ketamine, thus prolonging the effect of ketamine on the central nervous system. N<sub>2</sub>O reducing the dosage of ketamine and shorten recovery time of ketamine.<sup>9</sup>

## CONCLUSION

Ketamine is a phencyclidine derivative (an anesthetic used in veterinary medicine), non-competitive NMDA receptor antagonist. The chemical structure of ketamine, 2- (o-chloro-cyclohexanone hydrochloride, an arylcycloalkylamine which is structurally related to phencyclidine (PCP) and cyclohexamine. Ketamine non-competitively binds against a phencyclidine receptors bound N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA). Ketamine inhibits or interferes the sensory input to the central higher than the central nervous system, as well as inhibiting the activation of NMDA receptors by glutamate, reducing the release of glutamate in presynaptic and enhance the effects of the inhibitory neurotransmitter GABA. Ketamine also interacts with mu receptors, delta and kappa opioid.

Pharmacokinetics of ketamine is rapid onset, relatively short duration and high lipid solubility. Ketamine is not bound significantly in plasma and distributed quickly to the organs. Ketamine is metabolized in the liver by the hepatic microsomal enzymes through N-demethylation of ketamine by the cytochrome P-450 into nor ketamine (metabolite I), then hydroxylated become hydroxy-nor ketamine. This product is conjugated to glucuronide derivatives that are soluble in water and are excreted in the urine.

Pharmacodynamics ketamine in the central nervous system, which produces a dissociative anesthesia state with characteristic strong analgesia, amnesia, and catalepsy. In the respiratory system can cause a rapid decrease in FRC (Functional Residual Capacity). In the cardiovascular system to stimulate the cardiovascular system ketamine causes an increase in blood pressure, cardiac output, heart rate, systemic vascular resistance, pulmonary artery pressure and pulmonary vascular resistance.

Ketamine can be used for preoperative and intraoperative sedation, balanced anesthesia, regional anesthesia, spinal anesthesia and postoperative analgesia. Also known as low-dose ketamine, ketamine analgesia dose or subanesthetic dose of 0.2 to 0.75 mg/kg IV, provides satisfactory analgesia during surgery and the management of post-surgical pain, without any sedation or changes in hemodynamic and respiratory.

Ketamine interacts synergistically with the volatile agent, propofol, benzodiazepines, and agents mediated by GABA receptors other.

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