



**MEMO**

**To:** Highland Park EMS System Paramedics and Endeavor Legacy Hospital ECRNs  
**From:** Dr. Ben Feinzimer - EMS Medical Director  
**Date:** January 20, 2025  
**Subject:** Ketamine Dose Change - Ideal Body Weight (IBW)

To All HP EMS System Paramedics and Endeavor Legacy Hospital ECRNs,

The following SOP change was updated January 1, 2025. Please note there will be an additional update June 1, 2025 to further simplify Ketamine dosing for pediatrics and during drug assisted intubation.

**Behavioral Emergencies**

- Ketamine dosing for **ADULTS** and **POST-PUBESCENT PEDIATRICS** will now be based on Ideal Body Weight
- IBW is estimated using height and gender, not weight
- Pre-pubescent pediatrics who exceed the maximum weight on the pediatric table should receive the table maximum
- Post-pubescent pediatrics who exceed the maximum weight on the pediatric table should receive adult-based dosing

**Rationale**

- Ketamine dosing recommendations are based on IBW per pharmacy guidance
- Easier for EMS providers to estimate height when compared to weight
- Smaller doses and maximum doses are safer for patient
- IBW dosing reduces patient risk and therefore liability for EMS providers

Revised 12/26/2024

16. Document incident thoroughly. [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

**SEVERELY AGITATED, AGGRESSIVE, OR VIOLENT BEHAVIOR**

17. Provide *Routine Medical Care* - treat life threatening problems with airway, breathing circulation and disability. [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

18. > 5 years old and < 65 years old:  
**KETAMINE** 4mg/kg IM, max. single dose 300mg  
 \*\*\*using ideal body weight. See chart below.  
 If severe agitation, aggression, or violent behavior continues after 5 minutes:  
**KETAMINE** 2mg/kg IM, max total dose 500mg [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

>65 years old:  
**MIDAZOLAM**: 2mg IN/IV/IO, may repeat as needed every 2 min., max total dose 10mg

Please share questions or concerns.

Professionally,

*Ben Feinzimer*

Ben Feinzimer, DO, MS  
 EMS Medical Director  
 Illinois Region X - Highland Park

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**KETAMINE 500MG/10mL**

IDEAL BODY WEIGHT				PEDIATRIC PATIENTS							
ADULT MALE:				Initial: 4 mg/kg				Repeat: 2 mg/kg			
height	Kg	dose	vol.	lbs	kg	dose	vol.	dose	vol.	dose	vol.
Initial: 4mg/kg				Not approved for this weight							
< 5'6"	50 kg	200 mg	4 mL								
5'6"-6'	63 kg	250 mg	5 mL								
> 6'	75 kg	300 mg	6 mL								
Repeat: 2mg/kg											
height	Kg	dose	vol.								
< 5'6"	50 kg	100 mg	2 mL								
5'6"-6'	63 kg	125 mg	2.5 mL								
> 6'	75 kg	150 mg	3 mL								
ADULT FEMALE:											
Initial: 4mg/kg											
height	Kg	dose	vol.	44	20	80 mg	1.6 mL	40 mg	0.8 mL		
< 5'	45 kg	180 mg	3.6 mL	48	22	88 mg	1.8 mL	44 mg	0.88 mL		
5'-5'6"	50 kg	200 mg	4 mL	53	24	96 mg	1.92 mL	48 mg	0.96 mL		
> 5'6"	63 kg	250 mg	5 mL	57	26	104 mg	2.08 mL	52 mg	1.04 mL		
Repeat: 2mg/kg				62	28	112 mg	2.24 mL	56 mg	1.12 mL		
height	Kg	dose	vol.	66	30	120 mg	2.4 mL	60 mg	1.2 mL		
< 5'6"	45 kg	90 mg	1.8 mL	70	32	128 mg	2.56 mL	64 mg	1.28 mL		
5'6"-6'	50 kg	100 mg	2 mL	75	34	136 mg	2.72 mL	68 mg	1.36 mL		
> 6'	63 kg	125 mg	2.5 mL	79	36	144 mg	2.88 mL	72 mg	1.44 mL		
				84	38	152 mg	3.04 mL	76 mg	1.52 mL		
				88	40	160 mg	3.2 mL	80 mg	1.6 mL		
				92	42	168 mg	3.36 mL	84 mg	1.68 mL		
				97	44	176 mg	3.52 mL	88 mg	1.76 mL		