

TRANQUILIZERS, ANALGESICS AND ANESTHETICS FOR USE IN RODENTS & LAGOMORPHS

(All doses listed mg/kg)

DRUG - GENERIC (TRADE)	MOUSE	RAT	HAMSTER	GUINEA PIG	RABBIT
ANTICHOLINERGICS <i>(dose / route of administration)</i>					
Atropine	0.04 ¹ / SC	0.05 ¹ / SC	0.04 ¹ / SC	0.05 ¹ / SC	0.05 ¹ / IM
Glycopyrrolate (Robinul-V)		0.5 ¹ / IM	0.5 ¹ / IM		0.1 ^{1,2} / SC, IM 0.01 ¹ / IV
MINOR TRANQUILIZERS					
Diazepam (Valium)	5.0 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Light sedation)</i>	2.5 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Light sedation)</i>	5.0 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Light to mod sedation)</i>	2.5 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Heavy sedation)</i>	0.5-2.0 ¹ / IM, IV, IP <i>(Light to mod sedation)</i>
Midazolam (Versed)	5.0 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Light to mod sedation)</i>	5.0 ¹ / IP <i>(Light sedation)</i>	5.0 ¹ / IP <i>(Light sedation)</i>	5.0 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Heavy sedation)</i>	0.5-2.0 ¹ / IM, IV, IP <i>(Light to mod sedation)</i>
MAJOR TRANQUILIZERS					
Acepromazine Maleate	2.0-5.0 ¹ / SC, IP <i>(Light sedation)</i>	2.5 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Light sedation)</i>	2.5 ¹ / IP <i>(Light sedation)</i>	2.5-5.0 ¹ / IP <i>(Light to mod sedation)</i>	1.0 ¹ / IP <i>(Moderate sedation)</i>
ALPHA 2 AGONISTS					
Xylazine HCl (Rompun)	5.0-10.0 ¹ / IP <i>(Light sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>	1.0-5.0 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Light to heavy sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>	1.0-5.0 ¹ / IM, IP <i>(Light to heavy sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>	3.0-5.0 ⁴ / IM <i>(Light to mod sedation)</i>	2.0 – 5.0 ¹ / IM <i>(Light to mod sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>
Medetomidine (Domitor)	0.03-0.1 ¹ / SC <i>(Light to deep sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>	0.03-0.1 ¹ / SC, IP <i>(Light to heavy sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>	0.03-0.1 ¹ / SC, IP <i>(Light to heavy sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>		0.1 – 0.5 ¹ / SC, IM <i>(Light to heavy sedation, mild to mod analgesia)</i>
REVERSALS FOR ALPHA 2 AGONISTS					
Atipamezole (Antesedan) ^A <i>Specific antagonist</i>	0.1-1.0 ¹ / SC, IM, IP, IV	0.1-1.0 ¹ / SC, IM, IP, IV	0.1-1.0 ¹ / SC, IM, IP, IV	0.1-1.0 ¹ / SC, IM, IP, IV	0.1-1.0 ¹ / SC, IM, IP, IV
Yohimbine (Yobine) <i>Non-Specific antagonist</i>	0.5 ¹ / IM 0.2 ¹ / IV	0.5 ¹ / IM 0.2 ¹ / IV	0.5 ¹ / IM 0.2 ¹ / IV	0.5 ¹ / IM 0.2 ¹ / IV	0.5 ¹ / IM 0.2 ¹ / IV
OPIOID ANALGESICS					
Meperidine HCl (Demerol)	10-20 q 2-3h ⁵ / SC, IM	10-20 q 2-3h ⁵ / SC, IM	20 q 2-3h ³ / SC, IM	10-20 q 2-3 h ⁴ / SC 10-20 q 2-4h ⁴ / IM	5.0-10 q 2-3h ⁵ / SC, IM
Morphine Sulfate	2.0-5.0 q 4h ⁵ / SC, IM	2.0-5.0 q 4h ⁵ / SC, IM	2.0-5.0 q 2-4h ³ / SC, IM	2.0-5.0 q 2-4h ¹ / SC, IM	2.0-5.0 q 4h ⁵ / SC, IM
NARCOTIC AGONIST-ANTAGONIST ANALGESICS					
Buprenorphine HCl (Buprenex) ^B	0.05-0.1 q 8-12h ⁵ / SC	0.01-0.05 q 8-12h ⁵ / SC, IV	0.05-0.5 q 8-12h ³ / SC, IM	0.05 q 8-12h ⁵ / SC 0.05 q 8-12 ⁴ / IM	0.01-0.05 q 6-12h ⁵ / SC, IM, IV
Butorphanol Tartrate (Torbugesic)	1.0-2.0 q 4h ⁵ / SC, IM	1.0-2.0 q 2-4h ⁵ / SC, IM	1.0-5.0 q 2-4h ³ / SC, IM	0.025-0.4 q 4-12h ⁴ / SC, IM	0.1-0.5 q 4h ⁵ / SC, IM, IV
Nalbuphine HCl (Nubain) ^C	2.0-4.0 q 4h ⁵ / IM	1.0-2.0 q 4h ⁵ / IM	4.0-8.0 q 3h ³ / SC, IM	1.0-2.0 q 4h ⁵ / IM	1.0-2.0 q 4h ⁵ / IM, IV
OPIOID ANTAGONIST					
Naloxone (Narcan) ^D	0.01-0.1 ¹ / SC, IM, IV	0.01-0.1 ^{1,5} / SC, IM, IV	0.01-0.1 ¹ / SC, IM, IV	0.01-0.1 ¹ / SC, IM, IV	0.01-0.1 ¹ / SC, IM, IV

DRUG - GENERIC (TRADE)	MOUSE	RAT	HAMSTER	GUINEA PIG	RABBIT
NSAIDS					
Acetaminophen (Tylenol, Tempra)	200 daily ¹ / PO	200 daily ¹ / PO			
Aspirin	120 once ¹ / PO	100 once ¹ / PO		80-90 ¹ / PO	100 once ¹ / PO
Carprofen (Rimadyl)	5.0 daily ⁵ / PO, SC	5.0 daily ⁵ / PO, SC			1.5 q12 h ⁵ / PO 4.0 daily ⁵ / SC
Flunixin Meglumine (Banamine)	2.5 q12-24h ⁵ / SC	2.5 q12-24h ⁵ / SC	2.5 q12-24h ³ / SC, IM		1.0 q12-24h ⁵ / SC
Ibuprofen (Advil)	30 daily ⁵ / PO	15 daily ⁵ / PO			
Ketoprofen (Toradol)	5.0 daily ¹ / SC	5.0 daily ⁵ / PO, SC			3.0 daily ⁵ / SC
Meloxicam (Metacam)	5.0 daily ¹ / PO, SC	1.0 daily ¹ / PO, SC		0.1-0.3 daily ¹ / PO, SC	0.6-1.0 daily ¹ / PO, SC
INJECTABLE ANESTHETICS					
Ketamine HCL (Ketaset, Ketalar) ^E	100-200 ¹ / IM, IP (Deep sedation, mild to mod analgesia)	50-100 ¹ / IM, IP (Deep sedation, immobilization, mild to mod analgesia)	50-100 ¹ / IP (Deep sedation, immobilization, mild to mod analgesia)	100 ¹ / IM, IP (Heavy sedation, light analgesia)	25-50 ¹ / IM (Moderate to heavy sedation, mild to mod analgesia)
Pentobarbital (Nembutal) ^{F,G}	40-50 ¹ / IP (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 20-40 minutes)	40-50 ¹ / IP (Light anesthesia for 15-60 minutes)	50-90 ¹ / IP (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 30-60 minutes)	37 ¹ / IP (Surgical anesthesia for 60-90 minutes)	30-45 ¹ / IV (Light to moderate anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)
Propofol (Diprivan, Rapinivet)	26 ¹ / IV (Surgical anesthesia for 5-10 minutes)	10 ¹ / IV (Surgical anesthesia for 5 minutes)			10 ¹ / IV (Light anesthesia for 5-10 minutes)
Thiopental (Pentothal)	30-40 ¹ / IV (Surgical anesthesia for 5-10 minutes)	30 ¹ / IV (Surgical anesthesia for 10 minutes)			30 ¹ / IV (Surgical anesthesia for 5-10 minutes)
Tribromoethanol (Avertin) ^H	240 ¹ / IP (Surgical anesthesia for 15-45 minutes)				
INJECTABLE ANESTHETIC COMBINATIONS (drug dose/drug dose – route of administration)					
Ketamine/Acepromazine	100 / 5.0 - IP ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	75 / 2.5 - IP ¹ (Light anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	150 / 5.0 - IP ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 45-120 minutes)	100 / 5.0 - IM ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 45-120 minutes)	50 / 1.0 - IM ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)
Ketamine/Acepromazine/Xylazine ^I	80-100 / 3.0 / 10 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 30-40 minutes)	40-50 / 0.75 / 2.5 - IM, IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia)			35 / 1.0 / 5.0 - SC, IM ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 45-75 minutes)
Ketamine/Diazepam	100 / 5.0 - IP ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	75 / 5.0 - IP ¹ (Light anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	70 / 2.0 - IP ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 30-45 minutes)	100 / 5.0 - IM ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 30-45 minutes)	25 / 5.0 - IM ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)
Ketamine/Medetomidine	75 / 1.0 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	75 / 0.5 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	100 / 0.25 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 30-60 minutes)	40 / 0.5 - IP ¹ (Moderate anesthesia for 30-40 minutes)	15 / 0.25 - SC, IM ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)
Ketamine/Midazolam	100 / 5.0 - IP ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	75 / 5.0 - IP ¹ (Light anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)			
Ketamine/Xylazine	80-100 / 10 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	75-100 / 10 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	200 / 10 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 30-60 minutes)	40 / 5.0 - IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 30 minutes)	35 / 5.0 - IM ¹ 10 / 3.0 - IV ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 25-40 minutes IM, 20-30 minutes IV)

DRUG - GENERIC (TRADE)	MOUSE	RAT	HAMSTER	GUINEA PIG	RABBIT
	30 minutes)	30 minutes)			minutes IV)
Ketamine/Xylazine/Butorphanol					35 / 5.0 / 0.1 IM ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 60-90 minutes)
Tiletamine/Zolazepam (Telazol)	80 IP ¹ (Immobilization)	40 IP ¹ (Light anesthesia for 15-25 minutes)	50-80 IP ¹ (Immobilization, light anesthesia for 20-30 minutes)	40-60 IM ¹ (Immobilization)	
Tiletamine/Zolazepam/Xylazine			30 / 10 IP ¹ (Surgical anesthesia for 30 minutes)		
INHALANT ANESTHETICS (MAC values listed) *Halothane and Methoxyflurane are no longer available in the United States					
Isoflurane (Forane, Aerrane)	1.34 Swiss Webster ⁶	1.46 Sprague Dawley ⁶		1.15 Hartley ⁷	2.05 NZW ⁸
Nitrous Oxide	275 ¹	150 ¹			
Sevoflurane	2.5 ¹	2.7 ¹			3.7 ¹

Legend

- A. Highly specific antagonist. Dose required varies depending on dose of xylazine or medetomidine administered.
- B. Slower onset than naloxone and nalbuphine, but longer acting
- C. Almost as rapid acting as naloxone, maintains post-operative analgesia
- D. Reverses analgesia and respiratory depression
- E. Ketamine when used alone provides poor muscle relaxation and little to no deep analgesia during abdominal surgery. It's recommended to combine ketamine with a tranquilizer. See injectable anesthetic combinations.
- F. Narrow safety margin; poor analgesic
- G. Dilute commercial preparation 1:10 if necessary
- H. The Animal Care Program does not recommend the use of this drug as it is a non-pharmaceutical grade product that if incorrectly prepared or stored, can be irritating to the peritoneum. There may be a high rate of mortality if the animal is anesthetized a second time with this agent¹.
- I. Blood pressure with this combination can be significantly reduced

References: Rodents/Lagomorphs

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6. Mazze RI, Rice SA, Baden JM. Halothane, isoflurane, and enflurane MAC in pregnant and non pregnant female and male mice and rats. Anesthesiology 1985; 62: 339-341.
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