

Behavior Disorder

(Agitation/Excited Delirium)

Protocol

Douglas County KS EMS System

November 2022

Referenced Procedures: None

Goals for Patient Care:

- Identify life-threatening causes of altered behavior
- Patient and provider safety

Medications:

ADULT Medications:

- **Ketamine:** 3-5 mg/kg IM
(Max 500mg)
- **Midazolam:** 5mg IM repeat X1

PEDIATRIC Medications: Refer to HandTevy

- **Ketamine:** 3-5 mg/kg IM
(Max 500mg)
- **Midazolam:** 0.2 mg/kg IM

Procedures/ Interventions:

- Attempt to establish rapport with patient
 - Remove or assist in removing individuals who may aggravate the situation
 - Put the patient at ease
 - Establish a calm, quiet atmosphere
- Attempt to obtain brief history – what is the major problem or complaint from the patient's point of view and from relatives/bystanders
- Obtain as much specific information as possible about the following and identify:
 - Significant past medical history
 - Thoughts or threats of suicide and previous attempts
 - Alcohol or drug use (current or previous)
 - Any abrupt changes in behavior or bizarre activity
 - Any crisis that may be a factor in the patient's condition (death of friend or relative, loss of job, illness, etc.)
- Ensure patient and provider safety
- Restrain patient only if necessary as per Patient Restraint Protocol
- Consider IM administration of medication if patient is a danger to himself or others
 - IM Ketamine or Midazolam
- When able:
 - Obtain a glucose test
 - Treat per applicable medical protocol

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- If suicidal, do not leave patient alone unless necessary to ensure provider safety
- Remove (or have law enforcement remove) any dangerous objects
- Transport while monitoring vital signs frequently unless it will further agitate the patient
- If patient is dangerous to himself or others, request law enforcement to accompany patient in transport

Considerations

Considerations for crews on scene prior to ambulance arrival.

1. Stage until law enforcement has deemed it safe
2. Ensure the scene is safe remove patient from objects that can harm you
3. Have a person who is calm enter the scene (two at the most)
4. Do not leave alone or move from room to room
5. Limit the amount of people surrounding the patient (this can be intimidating)
6. Have a person gather information about the patient from someone who is familiar with the patient if possible (do this in another room)
7. Obtain vitals if the patient will allow someone touching them (SAMPLE)
8. Give full report to arriving paramedic of all information gathered, treatments rendered, and whether the patient would like to be transported or not