

What is Ketamine Infusion?

Ketamine infusion is a treatment used for persistent chronic pain with tolerance to opioid medication* and hypersensitivity.*

After having pain for a long time your brain and nerves become more sensitive to pain and you will require more and more medication.

The aim of Ketamine infusion is to reduce opioid requirements. This should always be complemented with other pain management strategies such as: physiotherapy, psychology and non opioid medication.

What will I feel during the infusion?

Most people find it relaxing and pleasant.

If you are anxious before the infusion, this may increase that feeling. It is advisable to try to relax before the infusion as this will contribute to having a pleasant experience.

You will start to feel the effects very soon after the drip has been put in place.

You may experience light-headedness and a soothing sensation all around your body.

* Opioid tolerance happens when medication does not have the same effect as before. Requiring greater amounts for it to work.

* Hypersensitivity is a phenomenon in which non painful stimuli, such a clothes rubbing your skin, triggers a painful signal to the brain.

For more Information,
Videos and Resources,
visit our website.

advancedspinepain.com.au

Locations

Waratah Private Hospital
Suite 705, Level 7, 31 Dora Street
Hurstville NSW 2220

St Vincent's Clinic (Level 8)
Suite 808B, 438 Victoria Street
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

Prince of Wales Private Hospital
Suite 24, Level 7, Barker Street
Randwick NSW 2031

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What to do before the admission?

You will be staying for 4-5 days, therefore ensure that you have enough clothes and self care items in your bag.

Organise transport home with a family member or friend as you will not be able to drive for 24 hours following the infusion.

You will be advised of your admission time by the hospital.

If you are on regular medication please let the hospital staff know in order to supply them whilst you are admitted.

Please fill out the hospital forms. These may vary according to the hospital that you are being admitted to.

If you are a smoker, please keep in mind that you are not allowed to smoke inside. If appropriate, it may be possible to prescribe a nicotine patch.

What happens at the hospital?

When you arrive, you will be admitted to the hospital and a nurse will start the infusion. The doctor will visit you every second day to assess your progress.

You will have a drip in place through out the infusion.

As a patient you have responsibilities whilst being admitted.

PATIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. You must treat the hospital staff respectfully.
2. You must abide by the rules in the hospital and follow instructions from the staff members.

What happens when I go home?

You will be discharged once the infusion is complete.

Normal activities may resume 24 hours after the infusion.

When to seek medical attention?

Contact your GP or Local Emergency Department, if you experience extreme pain.

When will I get pain relief?

It varies from case to case. Some people may start experiencing it 8 hours after the infusion whilst others will experience it after 2 - 3 days.

How long will my pain relief last?

This will depend on your personal circumstances but it can range from days to several months.