

Ketamine and urinary tract toxicity – have you seen it?

February – April 2011

Number of responses = 180

1) Have any of your patients taking *regular* ketamine (by any route) experienced *unexplained* urinary tract symptoms? (one_of)

answer	votes	% of vote
Yes - please continue with the survey	16	9%
No - please go to question 7 to complete the survey	164	91%

2) If YES, for the last patient in whom this occurred, what were the signs or symptoms experienced? (many_of)

answer	votes	% of voters
Frequency	10	6%
Urgency	5	3%
Nocturia	4	2%
Urge incontinence	3	2%
Dysuria	12	7%
Haematuria	5	3%
Evidence of new renal impairment unexplained by other pathology	1	1%
Other (please state below in question 6)	2	1%

3) For the last patient in whom this occurred, how soon after starting treatment with *regular* ketamine did the *unexplained* urinary tract symptoms develop? (one_of)

answer	votes	% of vote
< 1 week	4	2%
1-4 weeks	6	3%
1-3 months	2	1%
3-6 months	1	1%
>6months	2	1%

4) For the last patient in whom this occurred, what was the *total daily dose* of ketamine used? (one_of)

answer	votes	% of vote
<100mg	3	2%
100mg-300mg	6	4%
301mg-500mg	4	2%
501mg-700mg	2	1%
>700mg	1	1%

5) Please comment on how the patient was managed and the outcome.

(freetext)

It was stopped.

Urine specimen tested but no infection, Ketamine ceased (not in relation to urinary symptoms). Ketamine later recommenced with, so far, no urinary symptoms.

Reducing or stopping the ketamine resolved the problem.

Ketamine was continued, the foley catheter was removed and patient treated with anti-cholinergic agents.

Ketamine stopped and symptoms resolved.

It was confusing to pick up and delineate. Only when repeated cultures were performed (revealing RBC only) did the penny drop. Ural was maximised q.i.d. and subsequently Ketamine ceased as the nocturia was causing loss of sleep.

Ketamine was stopped and was commenced on methadone.

Ketamine reduced; hoping to switch to IT ziconotide as only other option available.

GP put patient on antibiotics. Symptoms did seem to settle after 48 hours, but there was no reason for patient to have UTI, so I am sceptical of diagnosis.

I have only ever seen this side effect once in the time I have observed the use of ketamine. My recall is we ceased the medication and the symptom resolved. Our use of the Ketamine was as a "burst" treatment over a week of treatment.