



Gauging Provider Attitudes and Awareness of Ketamine as an Analgesic

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

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BACKGROUND

- Practitioners are often left with a select few options for treating acute pain
- From a pharmacist's perspective it is logical to explore alternative pharmacotherapy options
- Ketamine has both sedative anesthetic and analgesic properties
- In 2018, consensus guidelines were published on the topic, highlighting specific patient populations that may benefit from ketamine infusions for acute pain management
- Despite the publication of these guidelines, ketamine use still appears to have a relatively low utilization
- This investigation is meant to gauge providers current attitudes and awareness of ketamine as an analgesic

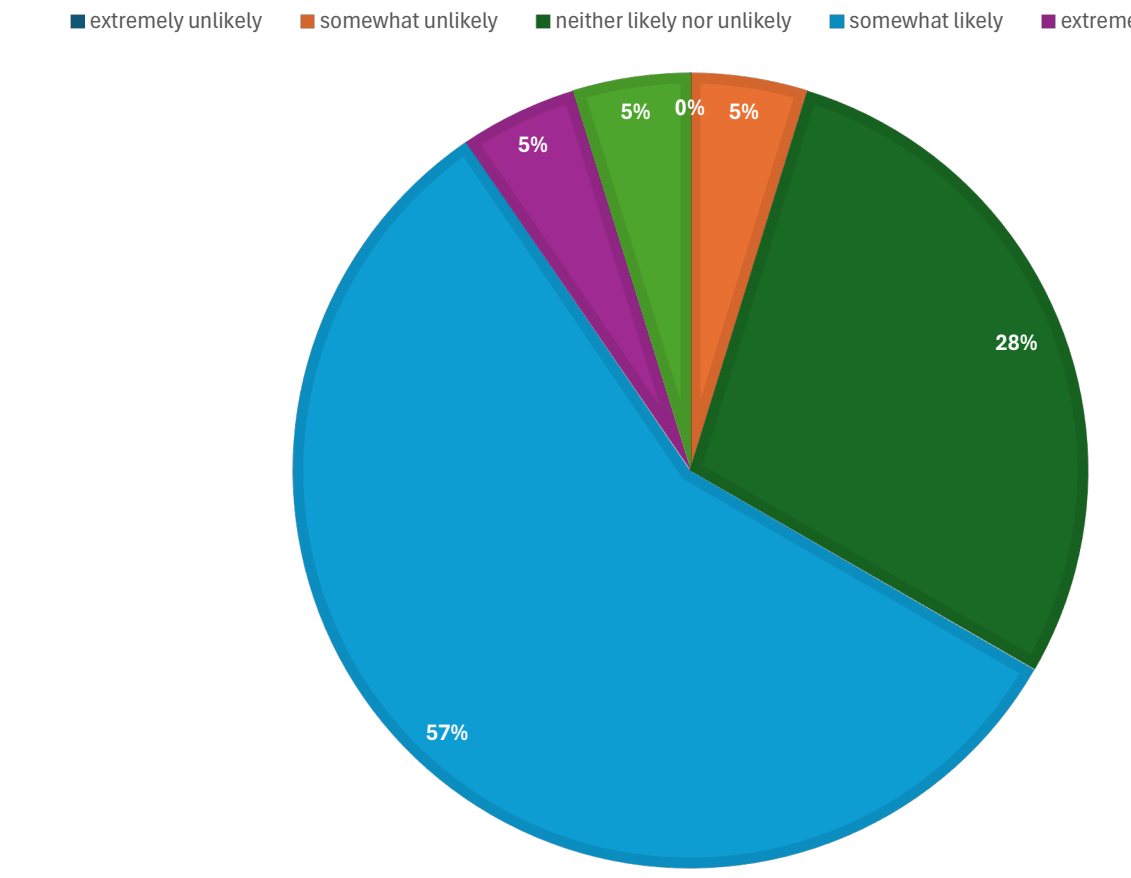
METHODS

- A survey was sent to providers at OSF St. Francis Hospital
- The survey was limited to 10 questions to prevent a lengthy time requirement to complete the survey
- The survey captured demographic data, assessed likelihood of ketamine utilization, examined institutional pressure, and assessed openness to education on the topic
- Providers were asked if they were aware of published consensus guidelines on the topic of ketamine for analgesia
- To assess likelihood, respondents were asked to use a Likert-scale for each scenario
- Providers were asked if they felt as if there was institutional pressure to not use ketamine
- Finally, respondents were asked if there was anything not addressed in the survey that they wished to share

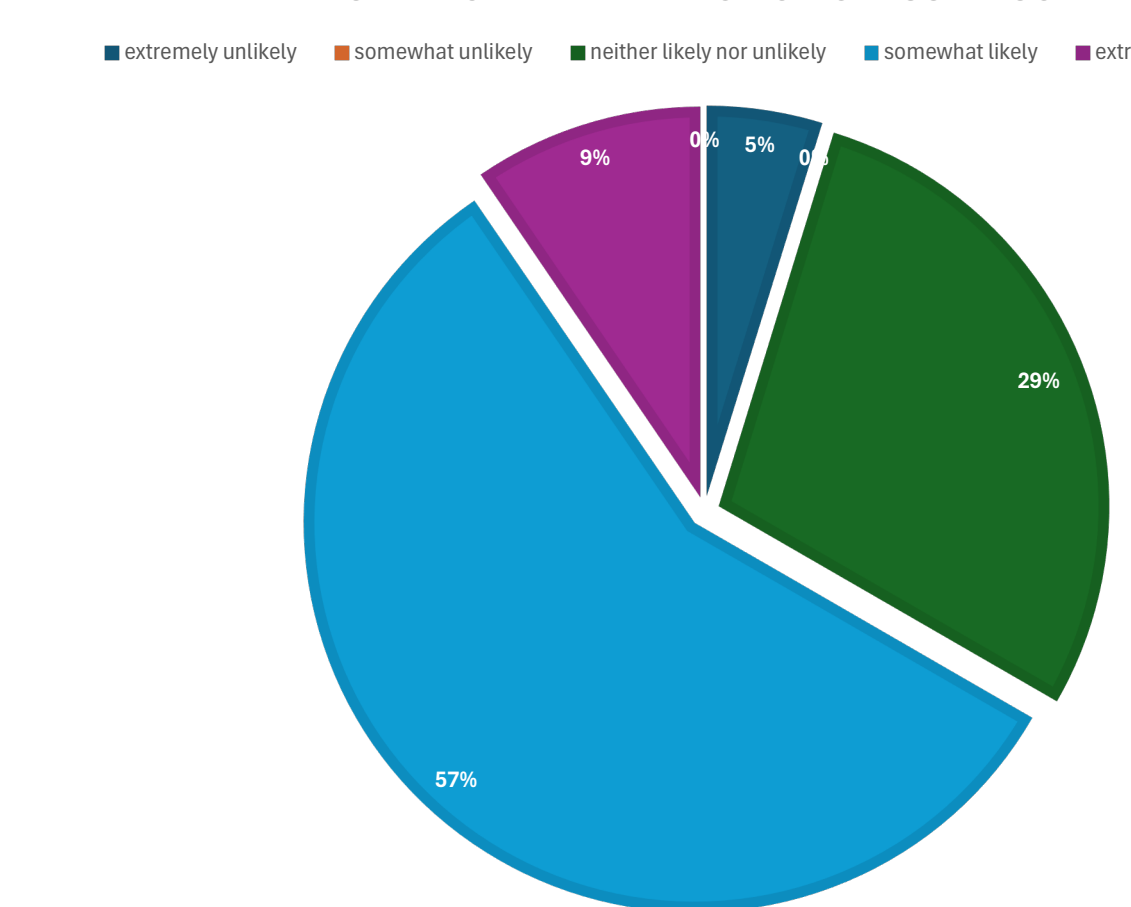
RESULTS

- 22 responses were collected (19 physicians and 2 pharmacists)
- 1 respondent did not complete the survey
- Question 4 (Awareness of relevant guidelines): 8 respondents selected that they were aware, 7 respondents selected that they were not aware, and 5 selected that they were aware but had not reviewed said guidelines

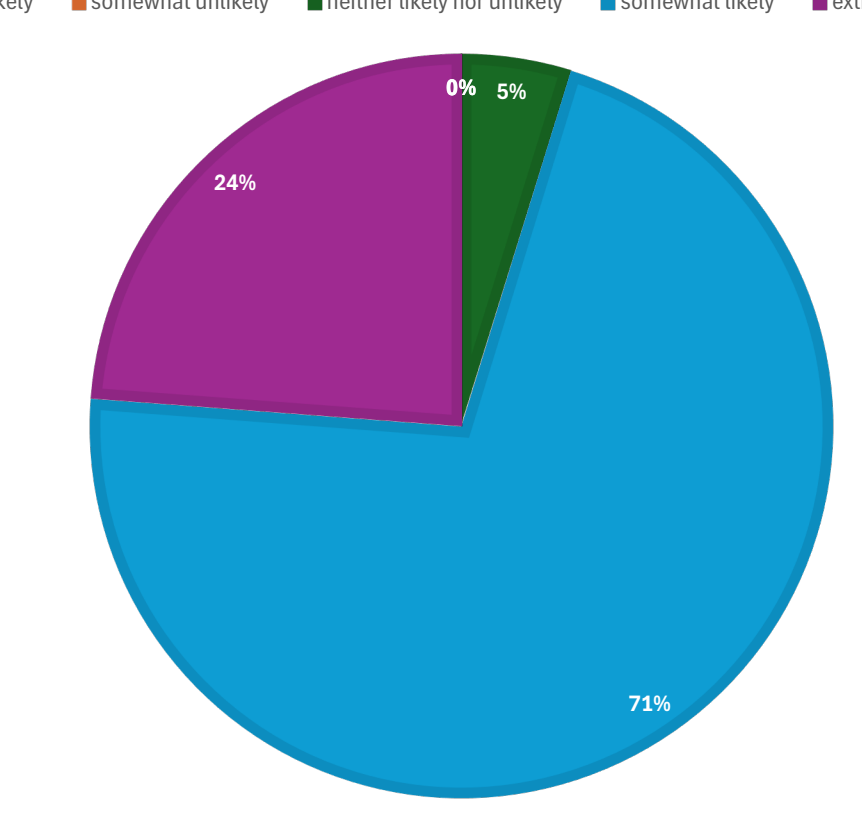
QUESTION 5-LIKELIHOOD OF UTILIZING KETAMINE FOR SICKLE CELL DISEASE RELATED PAIN



QUESTION 6-LIKELIHOOD OF UTILIZING KETAMINE FOR ACUTE PAIN FOR PATIENTS RECEIVING TREATMENT FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER



QUESTION 7-LIKELIHOOD OF UTILIZING KETAMINE FOR CANCER RELATED ("BREAKTHROUGH PAIN")



Question 8: Assessing institutional pressure to not utilize ketamine for analgesia

Available options	Number of respondents (%)
yes	7 (33)
no	10 (48)
maybe	4 (19)

Question 9: Would respondents be inclined to attend continuing education on the topic

Available options	Number of respondents (%)
Yes	11 (52)
No	4 (19)
Maybe	6 (29)

EXCEPTIONAL OUTCOMES

Question 8 asked respondents if there was institutional pressure to not use ketamine as an analgesic, if respondents selected yes, they were asked to provide an explanation. These are listed here:

- Some attending physicians are not comfortable utilizing ketamine as an analgesic
- Some nursing staff are uncomfortable utilizing ketamine as an analgesic/ increased monitoring from nursing staff
- Stigma
- Fear of over sedation
- Concern of patients exhibiting drug seeking behavior
- Other analgesics are generally preferred

LESSONS LEARNED

- Lack of awareness/comfort and familiarity may not explain the observationally low utilization of ketamine for analgesia
- Respondents at this site seem like they would be somewhat likely to use ketamine in specific situations
- Input from other health care professionals may provide more insight to the subject
- To collect quality data from surveys, questions must be designed to capture exactly what researchers are investigating

FUTURE PLANS

- Ideally, a survey of this nature would include a wider variety of healthcare personnel
- Better insight may be gained from multiple sites
- MUE may better address utilization rates

CONCLUSION

- Awareness and likelihood of ketamine utilization were not found to be as low as suspected
- Some degree of institutional pressure may exist, offering an alternative explanation for seemingly low use
- Most survey respondents would likely attend continuing education on the topic of ketamine for analgesia