



ORAL KETAMINE IN UNMANAGEABLE CHRONIC PAIN: A CASE REPORT

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BACKGROUND

The neuropathic pain management which is refractory to opioids treatments demands the development of new analgesic or new ways of using our classic medicines. Ketamine is scarcely used as an anesthetic, but with an increase in indication as an analgesic. The oral route is the most used for the treatment of chronic pain. However, no oral formulation of this medicine is commercialized in our country.

OBJECTIVES

The aim was to use and formulate a ketamine solution in order to reduce opioid doses in a patient with unmanageable neuropathic pain.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Diagnosed of

- A mixed anxiety-depressive disorder, with a history of two admissions due to autolytic ideation
- Central sleep apnea probably induced by psychodrugs, and constipation due to opioids.

2006

2008-2015

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT

POOR PAIN CONTROL

TREATMENT

43-year-old man experienced unapproachable neuropathic pain due to a nerve injury in the left arm.

2008

He was in treatment with various opioids and other non-opioid analgesic and antiinflammatory drugs, **without pain control or improvement despite high doses.**

RESULTS

DATE	TREATMENT	RESULTS
September 2016	Intravenous ketamine 0.2 mg/kg , three sessions at alternate months	50% pain relief on the Clinical Global Impression scale (CGI)
March 2017	Pain reappeared Sessions were repeated monthly	Good response and in that time the dose of transdermal fentanyl tried to be reduced
June 2017	Oral ketamine solution 10 mg/ml was formulated at the pharmacy , dosed at 50-70 mg/8 hours	Scored 9 his <i>quality life</i> on the CGI scale, pain well controlled
August 2017- Currently	Descending pattern of opioids to stop	The patient continues with oral ketamine and fentanyl on demand



CONCLUSION

The hospital pharmacy service has contributed to reduce the opioids dose of this patient achieving the therapeutic objectives and finally obtaining the control of the neuropathic pain