

Case report describes benefit of ketamine in child with PTSD

August 12 2015



(HealthDay)—Ketamine may be beneficial for children with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and episodes of severe aggression and emotional dysregulation, according to a case report published online Aug. 10 in *Pediatrics*.

Anna C. Donoghue, M.D., from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, and colleagues report on a case of a 7-year-old boy treated with ketamine for PTSD and episodes of severe aggression and emotional dysregulation. The episodes involved destruction of property and the symptoms were refractory to multiple medical and [behavioral interventions](#).

The authors note that the child demonstrated sustained remission from

symptoms (eight to 13 days) when exposed to ketamine on two occasions: when he underwent surgery for tonsillectomy and when he underwent sedated [magnetic resonance imaging](#). On both occasions the patient demonstrated a reduction in the intensity and frequency of aggressive behaviors and exhibited an ability to control his emotions.

"There is a growing literature supporting ketamine for treatment-resistant depression in adults and, more recently, PTSD," the authors write. "This case report suggests the need for future study using ketamine as a treatment option for children with a history of trauma and severe behavioral dysregulation who have not responded to first-line medication and behavioral therapy approaches."

More information: [Abstract](#)
[Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

Copyright © 2015 [HealthDay](#). All rights reserved.

Citation: Case report describes benefit of ketamine in child with PTSD (2015, August 12) retrieved 24 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-08-case-benefit-ketamine-child-ptsd.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--