

Clinical Highlight: Ketamine Center of Chicago

INTRAVENEOUS KETAMINE TREATMENT | IV SOLUTION AND KETAMINE CENTERS OF CHICAGO | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

“ I don't have to worry about plugging it in, I don't have to worry about specific type of tubing, I don't have to worry about setting a flow rate. I can simply attach it to the drip chamber, adjust the drip rate, set the alarm if I want, and off we go. ”

DR. BAL NANDRA MD, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER

DRIPASSIST FOR KETAMINE TREATMENT CLINICS

Ketamine Center of Chicago is the first of its kind in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Bal Nandra MD is an anesthesiologist trained at the University of Chicago Hospitals Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care with nearly 20 years of clinical experience. He opened his clinic to help patients who suffer from conditions for which all other therapies have failed, such as treatment-resistant depression. Intravenous ketamine treatment has been called “the most significant advance in mental health in more than half a century” due to its rapid antidepressant effects efficacy rate of 70%. Patients come to Dr. Nandra after years of struggling through depression, hopeless after having exhausted all other management options. Many of them turn to the Ketamine Center of Chicago after years of struggling to relieve their crippling depression. Dr. Nandra trusts DripAssist to ensure his patients receive safe and effective infusions.

INFUSION CARE SETTING

- Private practice infusion clinic
- Team of registered nurses, licensed therapists, technicians, and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Bal Nandra

INFUSIONS ADMINISTERED

- 15-20 infusions are administered weekly (this number is steadily increasing)
- Infusions typically last ~45 minutes
- Indications for ketamine infusions include, but are not limited to: treatment resistant depression (TRD), complex regional pain syndrome and reflex sympathetic dystrophy (CRPS or RSD), fibromyalgia, obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

WHY DRIPASSIST?

“It keeps an eye and makes sure the drip is staying like it is supposed to.”

Ketamine treatment is highly individualized, with some patients experiencing side effects such as nausea, agitation, or high blood pressure. The dose dependent nature of these side effects combined with a variation in the threshold at which each patient experiences symptoms makes flow rate monitoring critical. Dr. Nandra uses DripAssist for every infusion in order to safely and accurately assess the rate at which ketamine is being infused. He also utilizes the optional alarm feature that will alert him and his staff to drip rate changes.

“I don't have to worry about the hassles of a standard infusion pump... And it is way more cost effective”

Dr. Nandra prefers a “quick and simple” tool like DripAssist over an infusion pump because it does not require proprietary tubing or plugging into an outlet, and it reduces costs. With DripAssist, the only set-up required is sliding it on a drip chamber. One of the utility features makes it compatible with any tubing set and doesn't require calibration, saving 80% on disposable costs and 100% on maintenance costs. When comparing the initial unit price point of an infusion pump and factoring in the additional supply costs over time, a single DripAssist can save a clinic over \$6,000 in two years.

Dr. Nandra appreciates the “portability and wireless nature” of DripAssist

DripAssist runs for 360 hours on one AA battery and weighs only 3.8 oz. Because DripAssist does not control the flow rate, once the desired rate is achieved, Dr. Nandra is able to “bounce back and forth running [infusions on] two, three, four patients at a time”, making it a great tool for his growing practice.

