

Table 1. Characteristics of injectable agents for anesthesia induction and maintenance^{7,12,13}

Agent	Onset of Action (min)	Clinical Duration (min)	Usual Adult Doses for Anesthesia Induction and Maintenance
Etomidate	< 1	3-5	Induction: 0.2 to 0.6 mg/kg IV (average 0.3 mg/kg IV) Maintenance: 5-20 mcg/kg/minute IV
Ketamine	1-2	5-15	Induction: 1 to 2 mg/kg IV Maintenance: 0.33 to 2 mg/kg IV (33-100% of initial dose) as needed
Methohexital	<1	3-8	Induction: 50 to 100 mg IV OR 1 to 1.5 mg/kg IV Maintenance: 20 to 40 mg IV as needed, usually every 4 to 7 minutes; <i>or</i> 6 mg/minute IV by continuous infusion
Propofol	< 1	3-10	Induction: 1 to 2.5 mg/kg IV; <i>or</i> 20 to 40 mg IV every 10 seconds until onset of anesthesia Maintenance: 0.05 to 0.2 mg/kg/minute IV by continuous infusion <i>OR</i> 25 to 50 mg IV in increments as needed
Thiopental	< 1	4-15	Induction: 50 to 75 mg IV <i>OR</i> 3 to 5 mg/kg IV, every 20 to 40 seconds Maintenance: 25 to 100 mg IV as needed (whenever the patient moves)