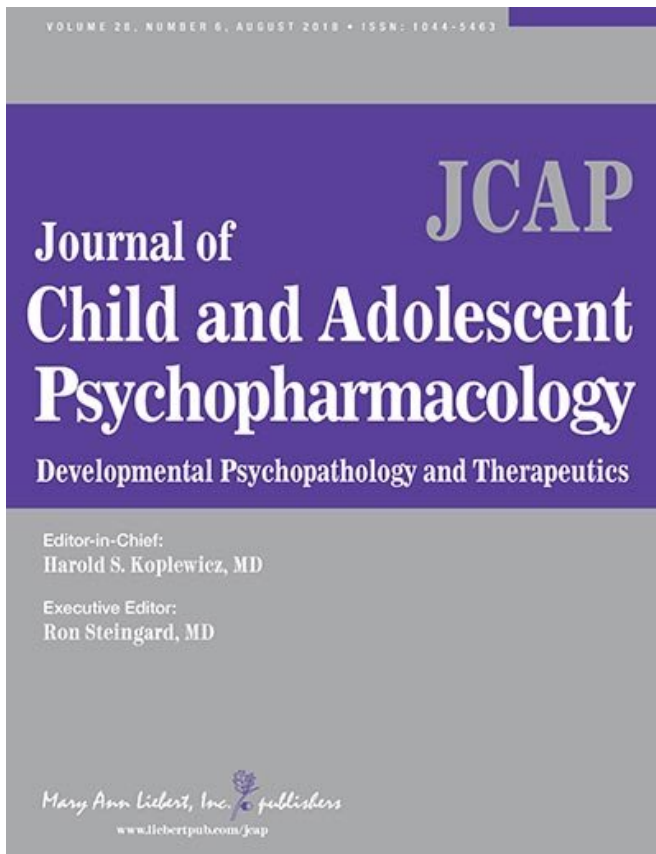


Ketamine has potential therapeutic role in adolescents with treatment-resistant depression

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Credit: Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers

A new study has shown a significant average decrease in the Children's Depression Rating Scale (42.5%) among adolescents with treatment-resistant depression (TRD) who were treated with intravenous ketamine. The study, which demonstrated the tolerability and potential role of ketamine as a treatment option for adolescents with TRD, is published in *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology*.

The article entitled "Intravenous Ketamine for

Adolescents with Treatment-Resistant Depression: An Open-Label Study" was coauthored by Kathryn Cullen, MD, University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, and a team of researchers from University of Minnesota, Hennepin County Medical Center (Minneapolis, MN), and Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN).

The study participants were young adults aged 12-18 years who had failed two previous trials of antidepressants. They received six ketamine infusions over 2 weeks. The treatment was well tolerated. Based on the Children's Depression Rating Scale scores, 38% of participants met the criteria for clinical response and remission.

"The field is excited about a potential new agent for adolescents with [treatment resistant depression](#). We look forward to additional studies of ketamine to validate this treatment," says Harold S. Koplewicz, MD, Editor in Chief of the *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology* and President of the Child Mind Institute in New York.

More information: Kathryn R. Cullen et al, Intravenous Ketamine for Adolescents with Treatment-Resistant Depression: An Open-Label Study, *Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychopharmacology* (2018). [DOI: 10.1089/cap.2018.0030](#)

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

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