

# Sub-Anesthetic Slow Infusion of Ketamine for Treatment of Depression Produces Rare but Currently Unpredictable and Potentially Serious Psychosomatic Effects

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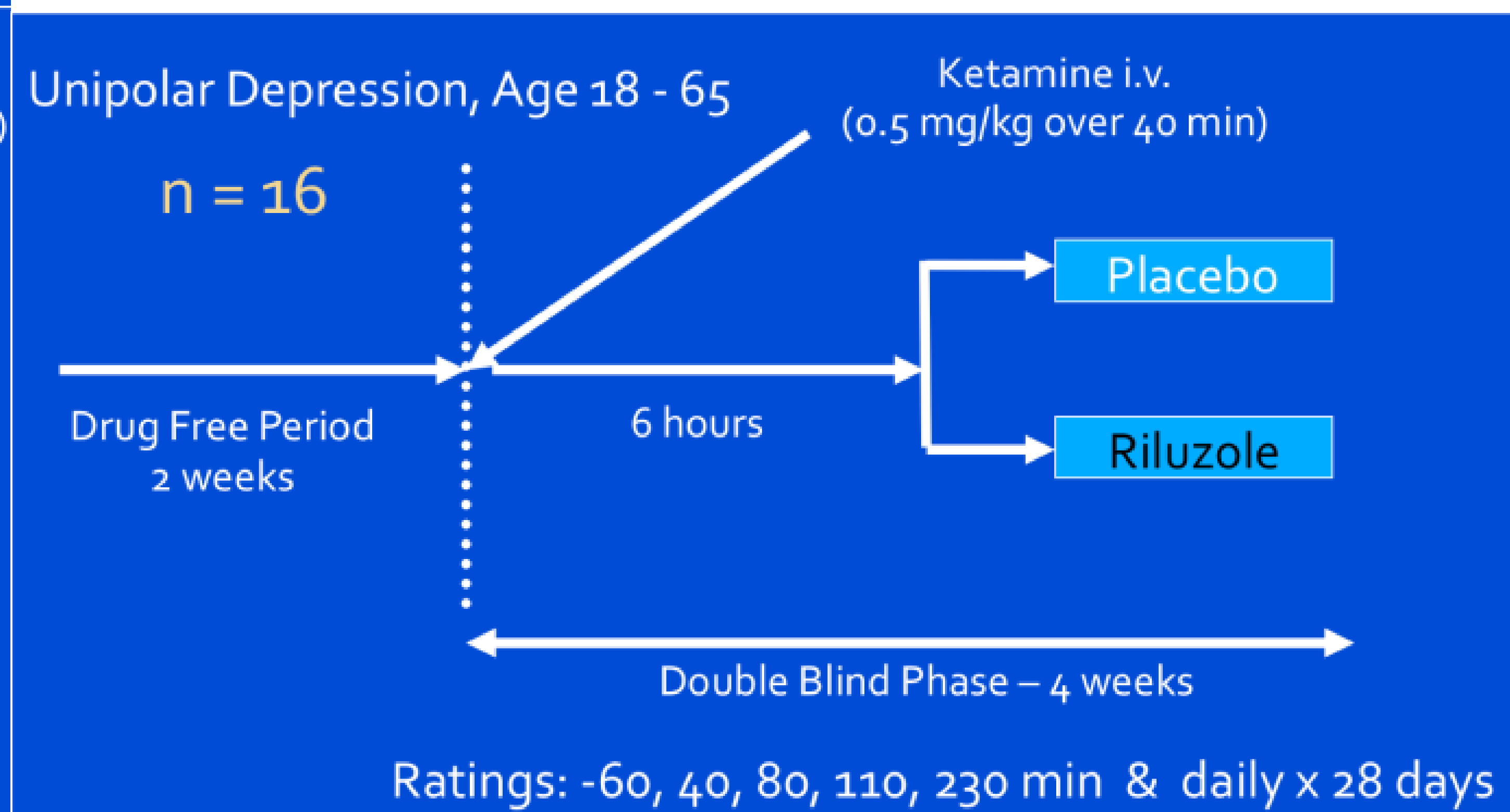
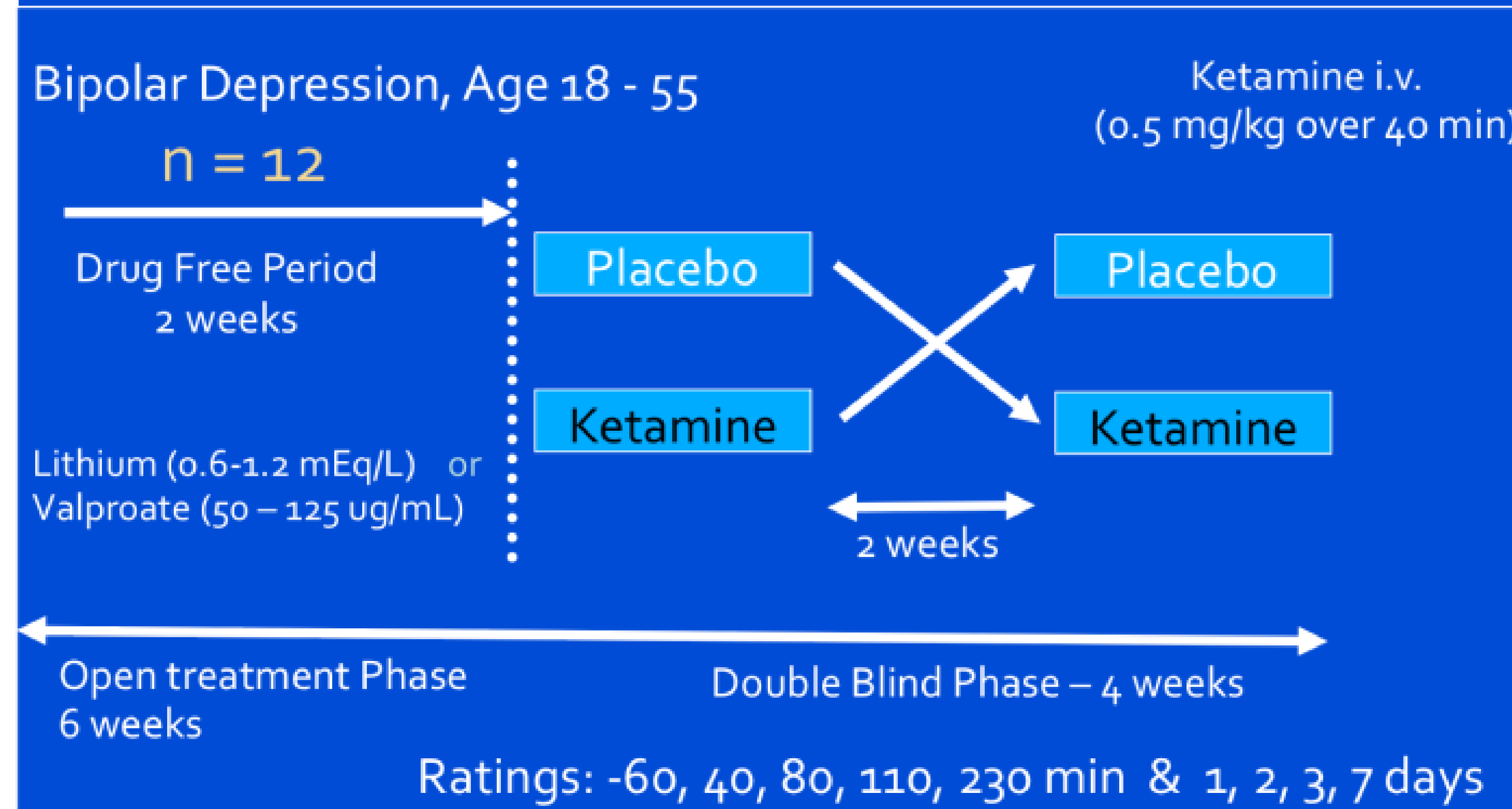
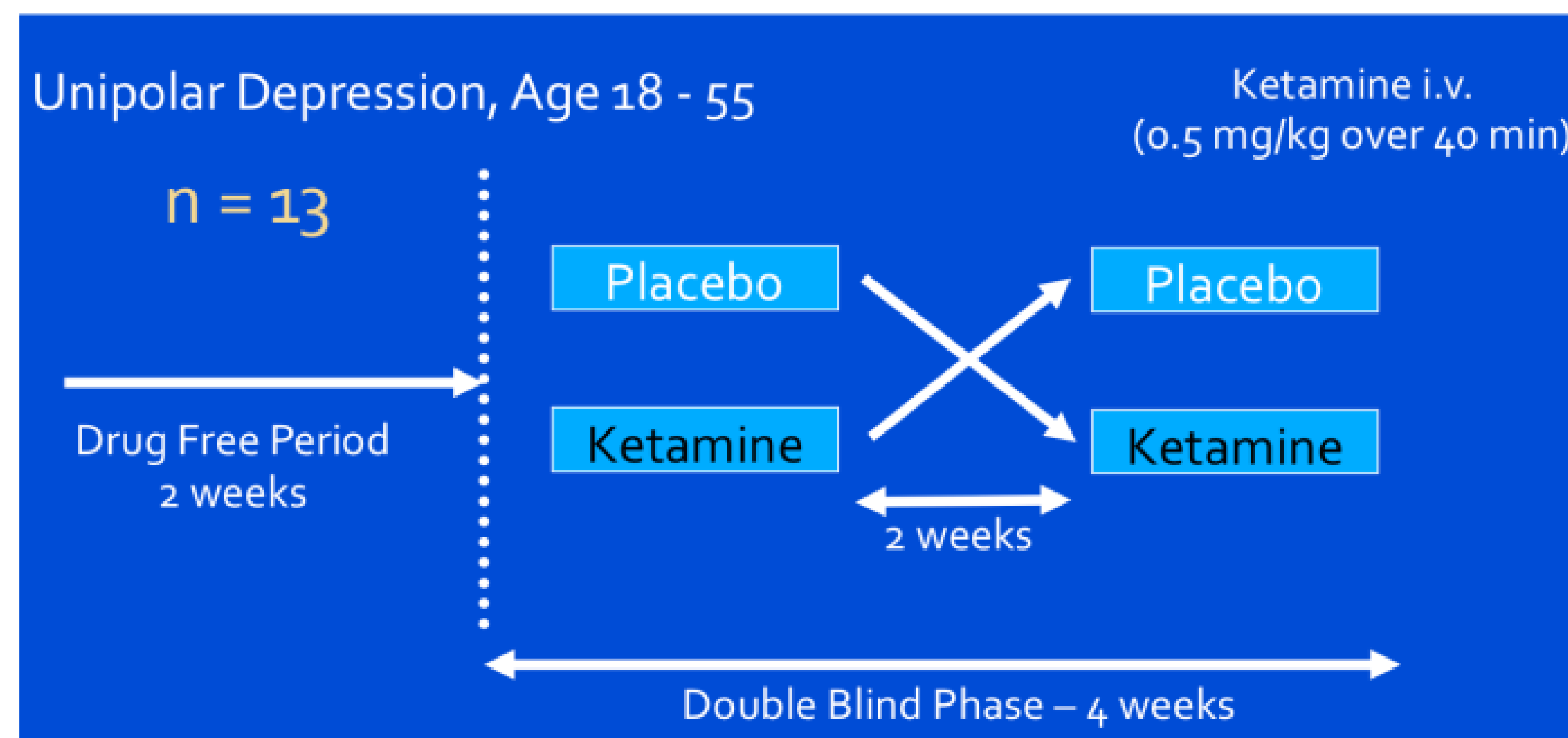
HealthPartners / Regions Hospital : St. Paul, MN

## Background

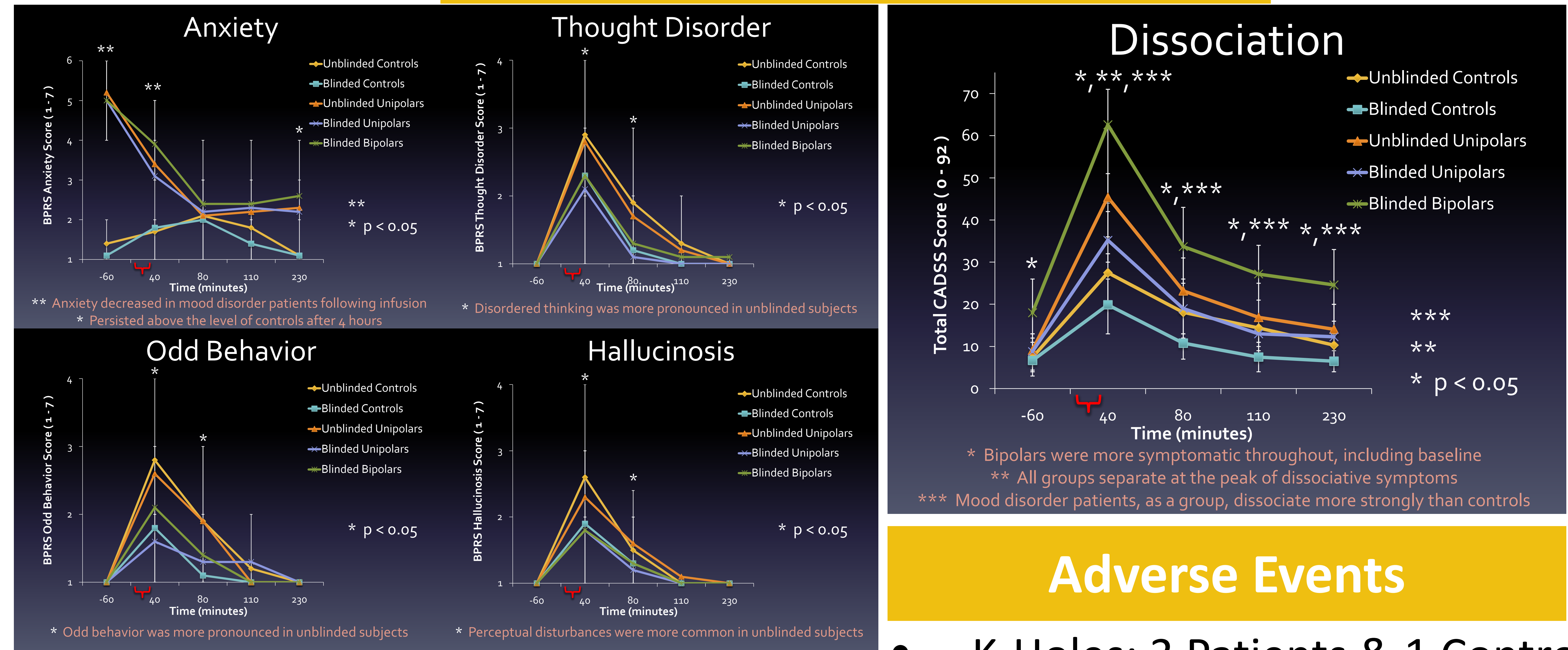
- Ketamine is used at sub-anesthetic doses for treatment of depression
- It is associated with psychotomimesis dissociation, stimulation, & addiction
- Mental illness may confer greater risk of untoward effects

## Methods

- Three active, concurrent NIMH protocols: Ketamine Rx depression



## Results



## Adverse Events

- No difference between patients & controls on psychosis ratings
- Intoxication & hallucinosi are enhanced by open-label expectancy
- Dissociation: BP > UP > Controls
- Small increases in BP & HR

- K-Holes: 3 Patients & 1 Control
- Fear, violent ideation, aphasia
- Rx Diazepam +/- Haloperidol
- **3 Others**
- Profound sedation; substance relapse; nausea & vomiting

## Conclusions

- Ketamine mostly well-tolerated
- Psychiatric measures do not predict or measure SAEs
- h/o Trauma or Cluster B Personality Disorder should raise caution