

JOYOUS

CONCEPT
CONTINUING & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Palo Alto
University

Ketamine Medication Interactions

Part 3 - Sedatives

Bobbi Leben, MD

Use with Caution - Benzodiazepines

May Reduce Therapeutic Effects

Examples: Diazepam (Valium), Lorazepam (Ativan), Clonazepam (Klonopin), Alprazolam (Xanax)

The Issue:

- *Enhance GABA (brain inhibition) vs. ketamine's glutamate enhancement*
- *Can blunt ketamine's ability to loosen mental patterns*
- *May reduce emotional processing capacity*

Management: Take at least 4 hours apart from ketamine