



## Sedation Recommendations for Echocardiograms

### IV/IM Administration

Butorphanol: 0.2 - 0.5 mg/kg

- Generally 0.3 mg/kg for most patients

Acepromazine: 0.01 - 0.05 mg/kg

Alfaxalone: 2.0 - 4.0 mg/kg

- Titrate to effect

Midazolam: 0.25 mg/kg

### Oral Administration

Gabapentin: 5 - 30 mg/kg PO one hour prior to exam

- Especially effective in felines

Trazodone: 3 - 5 mg/kg PO one hour prior to exam

### General Recommendations

Start with butorphanol at 0.3 mg/kg administered IV or IM. If additional sedation is needed, add acepromazine. For fractious patients, a butorphanol-alfaxalone combination is effective.