

## Recommended Analgesic Agents: *Ferrets*

Ferrets	Analgesics					
	Name	Used for	Dose	Route	Frequency	Needle Gauge
	Buprenorphine	Visceral, musculoskeletal & neuropathic pain	0.01-0.05 mg/kg	SC / IM / IV	TID - QID (q 6-8 h)	≤ 22 SC / ≤ 23 IM or IV
	Carprofen	Visceral & musculoskeletal pain	2-4 mg/kg	SC / PO	SID	≤ 22 SC
	Meloxicam	Visceral & musculoskeletal pain	0.2-0.3 mg/kg	SC / IM / PO	SID	≤ 22 SC / ≤ 23 IM
	Bupivacaine	Local pain, nerve block	0.23-0.5% (maximum dose 2 mg/kg)	local infiltration (SC)	Administer post-anesthesia induction / surgical site prep; lasts ~4 hours	≤ 22
	Lidocaine	Local pain, nerve block	0.25-0.5% (maximum dose 2 mg/kg)	local infiltration (SC)	Administer post-anesthesia induction / surgical site prep; lasts ~1 hour	≤ 22

SID - Once a day  
 TID - Three times a day  
 QID - Four times a day

SC - subcutaneous  
 PO - per os (by mouth)  
 IM - intramuscular  
 IV - intravenous

References:

Fish et al, Anesthesia and Analgesia in Laboratory Animals, 2nd Edition  
 Fox et al, Laboratory Animal Medicine, 3rd Edition  
 Hawk et al, Formulary for Laboratory Animals, 3rd Edition  
 Plumb, Veterinary Drug Handbook, 3rd Edition  
 Univ. of Colorado, Denver, Veterinary Anesthetic & Analgesic Formulary, 3rd Edition

**Local Nerve Blocks** are recommended whenever possible to reduce the amount of general anesthesia required.

**Multimodal Analgesia:** synergistic approach to giving drugs with different mechanisms of actions to target different pain pathways and achieve better pain control.

**Example includes:** NSAID + Opioid (carprofen + buprenorphine)