There’s that Other Peace Beside the Police

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Denver Paramedics
AGITATION:
Why do I care???
WHAT DID WE DO?

• Train (we thought we were implementing ketamine)
  – Denver Paramedics
  – Denver Fire
  – Denver Police
  – Denver 911
WHAT WE ACTUALLY DID

• Changed culture
  – Treat severe agitation as a medical problem

• And... It was safe
  – BVM rates remained at 5%
  – Prehospital intubation rates dropped from 5.3 to 1.7
Sedation vs. Restraint

PHARMACEUTICAL SEDATION VERSUS PHYSICAL RESTRAINTS PER 1000 CALLS

- Combative
- Physical Restraint
- Pharmacologic Sedation

AND... IT WAS SAFE
KETAMINE: WHAT HAPPENED IN DENVER?

- Only used in severe agitation
- 4 years
  - 9564 Versed
  - 5518 Haldol
  - 336 Ketamine
KETAMINE: WHAT HAPPENED IN DENVER?

- EXCITED DELERIUM
  - 30% ED INTUBATION & ICU ADMISSION