This algorithm is from the AAFP Feline Anesthesia Guidelines, published in JFMS in July 2018 and available at catvets.com/guidelines

**Key**
- IV = intravenous
- RR = respiratory rate
- SpO₂ = oxygen saturation of hemoglobin in arterial blood

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**Troubleshooting dysphoria**

1. **Is the cat tractable?**
   - **Yes**
     - Supplemental oxygen
   - **No**
     - **Is the cat painful?**
       - **Yes**
         - **Is the cat hypoxic?**
           - **Yes**
             - Sedation
             - 0.25–1 mg/kg alfaxalone IV
             - 0.5–2 mg/kg propofol IV
             - 0.5–5 µg/kg dexmedetomidine IV
           - **No**
             - 0.25–1 mg/kg alfaxalone IV
             - 0.5–2 mg/kg propofol IV
             - 0.5–5 µg/kg dexmedetomidine IV
         - **No**
           - Treat for pain
       - **No**
         - **Is the cat hypoxic?**
           - **Yes**
             - Check SpO₂, RR
           - **No**
             - Reverse drugs
   - **No**
     - **Is the cat painful?**
       - **Yes**
         - Wound palpation
         - Review analgesics
         - Pain score
       - **No**
         - Treat for pain
     - **Yes**
       - Supplemental oxygen
     - **No**
       - Reverse drugs

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