

**Table 4. Topical Anesthetics' Onset, Duration, and Comments**

TOPICAL ANESTHETIC	ONSET OF ACTION	DURATION OF ACTION	COMMENTS
TAC/LET*			Not useful for intact skin.
<b>Tetracaine 4% gel</b> (amethocaine, Ametop)	30-45 min	4-6 hours	Not yet approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
<b>Topical lidocaine</b> (available in 2% or 5% concentration)			Max area of application should not exceed 100 cm <sup>2</sup> in children and 600 cm <sup>2</sup> in children weighing greater than 10 kg or adults.
<b>Lidocaine 4% micro-emulsion</b> (Tropicaine)	30 min		Max area of application should not exceed 100 cm <sup>2</sup> in children and 600 cm <sup>2</sup> in children weighing greater than 10 kg or adults.
<b>Liposomal lidocaine 4%</b> (L.M.X 4)	30 min		Max area of application should not exceed 100 cm <sup>2</sup> in children and 600 cm <sup>2</sup> in children weighing greater than 10 kg or adults.
<b>2.5% lidocaine and 2.5% prilocaine</b> (EMLA cream)	1-3 hours	2 hours	For infants 3 months or younger or less than 5 kg, a max dose of 1 g can be applied over a maximal surface of 10 cm <sup>2</sup> . For children 3-12 months weighing more than 5 kg, a max dose of 2 g can be applied over a maximal surface area of 20 cm <sup>2</sup> . For children 1-6 years and weighing more than 10 kg, a max dose of 10 g can be applied over a maximal surface area of 100 cm <sup>2</sup> . For children 7-12 years, a max dose of 20 g can be applied over a maximal surface area of 200 cm <sup>2</sup> .

\* TAC = tetracaine, Adrenaline [epinephrine], cocaine; LET = lidocaine, epinephrine, tetracaine