***Eye Removal Technique in Ruminants:***

***Transpalpebral Exenteration***

This procedure requires use of the Auriculopalpebral nerve block and the Peterson nerve block, and involves removal of both the eye ball and retrobulbar tissues

**Procedure:**

1. After carrying out the necessary nerve blocks, the hair on the eyelid and in the surrounding area are shaved for improved sterility, and the area is properly scrubbed. The eyelids are closed, and are bound at the middle with a simple continuous suture using a taper cut needle and synthetic non-absorbable suture material.
2. After suturing, there should be sufficient suture material to grasp in order to make control of the eyelids better. Then, a transpalpebral incision is made ventrally, continuing right around the entire orbit.
3. Using blunt dissection, the eye ball and retrobulbar tissues are separated from the orbit, leaving the medial canthus to be dissected last since profuse bleeding would take place when it is cut. Take care not to cut into the globe itself during dissection.
4. The optic stalk is then clamped by a haemostat, and is cut on the distal end of the haemostat so that the eye and retrobulbar tissues are totally removed along with the eyelids.
5. The orbit may be further cleaned to ensure no more tissue is left, and the incision is closed using synthetic non-absorbable suture material in both simple continuous and horizontal mattress patterns. At either the medial or lateral canthus, a simple interrupted suture can be placed to allow flushing of the orbit.

This procedure is used in cases of squamous cell carcinoma or other severe injury to the eye.

**Complications:**

* Dead space created after removal of the eye. The orbit must be flushed subsequent to the surgery, and the closed wound observed for signs of infection and inflammation/ oedema.
* Consider post-operative fly-strike: ensure that wound is properly cleaned and animal is kept in sanitary conditions and insecticides used during healing.
* Sinusitis also possible, and should be monitored for.