

Trochanteric Bursa

Quantity of Local Anesthetic: 10 to 15 mL

Needle Size: 1 to 1-1/2 inches, 18 to 20 gauge

Injection Techniques: The trochanteric bursa is located beneath the tendon of insertion of the middle gluteal muscle on the cranial aspect of the greater trochanter of the femur. The site for injection is between the tendon and the lateral surface of the greater trochanter at the most cranial aspect of the palpable greater trochanter. A 1-1/2-inch, 18- to 20-gauge needle is usually all that is needed, although larger Warmblood horses may require a longer needle in some cases. The needle is inserted and directed horizontally at right angles to the sagittal plane until bone is encountered. An alternate method is to direct the needle medially through the middle gluteal muscle directly over the bursa toward the trochanter.

Pitfalls:

1. Needle directed too superficially and does not enter bursa
2. Inability to aspirate synovial fluid
3. Difficulty palpating the cranial border of the greater trochanter