

Basisesamoid (High PD) Block (Figure 3.61)

Quantity of Local Anesthetic: 1.5 to 2 mL

Needle Size: 5/8 inch, 25 gauge

Injection Technique: This block is performed similarly to the PD block, except it is more proximal on the limb at the base of the proximal sesamoid bones (often referred to as a high PD block). The PD nerves can be palpated at this location and 1.5 to 2 mL of anesthetic is deposited directly over the nerves. The basi-sesamoid block will desensitize the dorsal branch and the PD nerve at a more proximal location in the pastern. This block will desensitize the palmar/plantar soft tissue structures of the pastern, the PIP joint, and all structures of the foot. Because it is performed at the base of the sesamoid bones, it is unlikely to desensitize any of the fetlock joint.

Pitfalls:

1. Using too much anesthetic—diffusion decreases specificity
2. Difficulty in palpating the PD nerves—they are not as superficial in this location compared to more distally