PARALUMBAR NERVE BLOCKS

Technique	Instruments	Procedure	Key Points
Proximal paravertebral nerve block	Needle: 20 gauge 1 ½' Syringe: 30 cc	Locate the last rib- T13 then Lumbar 1& Lumbar 2 vertebrae	 Area blocked- flank on the side on which the technique is performed Nerves blocked: Dorsal and ventral branches of T12, 11 and 12
<image/>	Anesthetic : Lidocaine 2% Saline	Clip the hair above the vertebrae creating a rectangle approximately 5x3" Calculate dosage according to the weight of animal: V=(WxD)/C Palpate the first lumbar vertebra 3cm from the midline, clean with an alcohol swab and inject at a 90° angle onto the transverse process "Walk" the needle cranially until it slips off the edge of the cranial transverse process of the 1st lumbar vertebra Inject 4mls of anaesthetic into the area to block nerve T13 "Walk" the needle caudally until it slips off the caudal edge of the transverse process and inject 4mls of anesthetic to block nerve L1	branches of T13, L1 and L2 Disadvantages: Procedure difficult in fat animals Arching of spine caused by paralysis of back muscles No anesthesia of abdominal viscera

		Repeat process on 2nd lumbar vertebra on the caudal aspect to anesthetize nerve L2. Test nerve block by sticking flank with needle and looking for any reactions from the animal.	
<section-header><image/></section-header>	Needle: 20 gauge 1 ½: Syringe: 30 cc Anesthetic: 2% Lidocaine Saline	Locate the last rib- T13 then Lumbar 1, Lumbar 2 and Lumbar 4 vertebrae Clip the hair above the vertebrae creating a rectangle approximately 7x3" Calculate dosage according to the weight of animal: V=(WxD)/C Palpate the first lumbar vertebra Insert needle laterally to meet the tip of the transverse process. Withdraw the needle a short distance and reinsert it dorsal and caudal to the transverse process injecting 2ml of anesthetic per spot to block the T13 nerve Repeat the above step at the second and fourth lumbar vertebrae	 Area blocked- flank of side on which technique is performed Nerves blocked- dorsal and ventral rami of T13, L1 and L2 Advantages: Minimizes risk of penetrating a major blood vessel Lack of scoliosis Minimal ataxia or weakness in the pelvic limb Disadvantage: Variation in efficacy can occur, particularly if the nerves follow a variable anatomic pathway

	Test nerve block by sticking flank with needle and looking for any reactions from the animal.	
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