

PD Neurectomy

Indications:

Occasionally required to allow horses with chronic heel pain the opportunity to remain athletically sound.

Procedure:

- The nerve is isolated by carefully separating the perineural tissues with a small curved mosquito haemostat and elevated out of the incision.
- Gentle traction is applied to the exposed nerve to facilitate identification of the nerve in the proximal pastern region.
- A proximal 2-cm incision is made over the palpable nerve just distal to the base of the proximal sesamoid bone and the nerve is isolated from the surrounding connective tissue and elevated out of the incision.
- Transect the nerve in the distal incision first, followed by applying traction to the nerve isolated through the proximal incision with the mosquito haemostat to strip it from the palmar aspect of the pastern region.
- This will expose 8 to 10 cm of the palmar digital nerve.
- Once the nerve has been stripped free, firm traction is applied to tense the proximal nerve segment and it is transected sharply at the proximal extent of the proximal incision
- The skin is closed with stainless steel staples