

Surgical and anaesthetic risks

- Rare complications include postural instability, recumbency, [haemorrhage](#) if a venous sinus is punctured and infection if sterility is not maintained during the procedure.
- There is a risk of hindlimb ataxia if an epidural is used.
- Infection of the epidural space has occurred in cattle following caudal epidural block, although only rarely.
- Doses greater than 10 ml of 2% lidocaine in cattle (of approximately 450 kg bodyweight) may result in hindlimb incoordination and recumbency.
- Preparations containing adrenaline (epinephrine) are **not** suitable for intra-articular, intravenous, epidural or intradigital administration.
- The danger of regurgitation and inhalation of ingesta
- Adult cattle carries greater risk of developing myopathies and neuropathies following prolonged recumbency
- Following recumbency esophageal opening is submerged in ruminal contents, normal eructation can not occur, and gas accumulates. Resulting in bloat
- The weight of the abdominal viscera and their contents prevents the diaphragm from moving freely on inspiration and ventilation becomes shallow, rapid and inefficient for gas exchange within the lungs.