Low Plantar Nerve Block (Low 6-Point Nerve Block)

If the abaxial sesamoid nerve block fails to improve lameness, the low plantar nerve block (low 6-point) is performed.

Nerves:

1. Medial and lateral plantar nerves
2. Medial and lateral plantar metatarsal nerves
3. Medial and lateral dorsal metatarsal nerve

Location:

1. Medial and lateral plantar nerves lie between the suspensory ligament and the deep digital flexor tendon.
2. Medial and lateral plantar metatarsal nerves: distal to the button of the splint bones of MC2 and MC4 and the canon bone (MC3)
3. Medial and lateral dorsal metatarsal nerve:
   * 1. Medial DM: lies adjacent to the long digital extensor tendon.
     2. Lateral DM: courses distally in the metatarsal region close to the splint bone and deviates dorsally in the region of the fetlock.

Technique:

Similarly, after depositing local anaesthetic for the low 4-point at the level of the distal aspect of the splint bones (20–22-gauge, 1.5-inch needle, 3-5 ml of local anaesthetic solution), a 25-gauge, 5/8 inch needle is used to deposit 2 ml of local anaesthetic solution subcutaneously in the dorsolateral and dorsomedial aspect of the metatarsus, to anaesthetize the medial and lateral plantar metatarsal nerves.

Regions desensitize:

All structures below the level of the block.