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| **Low Four-Point Nerve Block (Low Palmar Nerve Block)** | |
| **Description** | Involves anaesthetizing the medial and lateral Palmar Nerves and the medial and lateral Palmar Metacarpal Nerves at the level of the distal end of the second and fourth metacarpal bones |
| **Uses** | * To localize pain that is causing lameness that has not improved after anesthetizing the palmar digital nerves at the level of the base of the proximal sesamoid bones * To desensitize the foot or pastern region for surgery |
| **Materials Required** | 25-gauge, 5/8 inch needle  3ml syringe  Local Anaesthetic Solution |
| **Volume Administered** | 1-2ml at each site |
| **Procedure** | * Usually performed with the horse bearing weight on the limb * The medial and lateral palmar nerves lie between the suspensory ligament and the deep digital flexor tendon * Deposit about 2ml local anaesthetic solution, subcutaneously, adjacent to the dorsal surface of the deep digital flexor tendon. * The medial and lateral palmar metacarpal nerves lie between the palmar surface of the third metacarpal bone and the axial surface of either the second or fourth metacarpal bone * Deposit 1-2ml local anaesthetic solution next to the periosteum beneath the distal end of each small metacarpal bone where the nerve emerges |
| **Structures Desensitized** | The fetlock and structures distal to it, the superficial and deep digital flexor tendons and the distal aspect of the branches of the suspensory apparatus |
| **Interpretation of Response** | A positive response to a low four-point block, performed after a negative response to an abaxial sesamoid nerve block, localizes the site of pain causing lameness to the fetlock. |