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| **Abaxial Sesamoid Nerve Block** | |
| **Description** | Involves anaesthetizing the palmar digital nerves that are located in the neurovascular bundle that can be easily palpated along the abaxial border of each proximal sesamoid bone |
| **Uses** | * To localize pain causing lameness that has not improved after anaesthetizing the palmar digital nerves at the level of the cartilages of the foot (palmar digital nerve block) * To desensitize the foot for surgery |
| **Materials Required** | 25-gauge, 5/8 inch needle  3ml syringe  Local Anaesthetic |
| **Volume Administered** | 2ml or less |
| **Procedure** | Direct the needle distally and deposit a small volume of local anaesthetic solution at the base of the proximal sesamoid bones |
| **Structures Desensitized** | The foot, middle phalanx, proximal interphalangeal joint, distopalmar aspects of the proximal phalanx, distal portion of the superficial and deep flexor tendons, distal sesamoidian ligaments and digital annular ligament |
| **Interpretation of Response** | Positive response to an abaxial sesamoid nerve block, performed after a palmar digital nerve block has failed to ameliorate lameness, localizes the site of pain causing lameness to the pastern. |