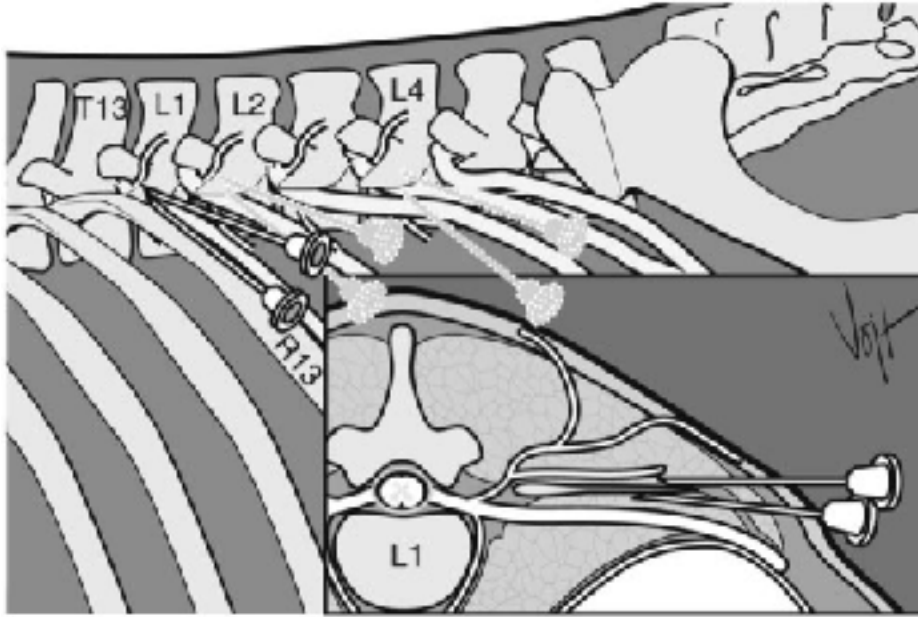


Distal Para-vertebral Block



The para-vertebral nerve block provides excellent surgical grade anesthesia of the entire flank region of the animal via blockade of T13 , L1 and L2 which allows the clinical to perform surgery on a standing animal with minimal difficulty . In the distal paravertebral block the ends of the transverse processes are palpated starting with L5 and working upwards towards L1. After palpation and identification of the distal end of the transverse process of L1 the needle is advanced thru the skin to the edge of the transverse process. The needle is redirected cranially, advanced 1-2cm and 10-15mls of 2% lidocaine is infused into the subcutaneous space. The needle is then redirected caudally underneath the transverse process , advanced 1-2 cm and 10-15mls of 2% lidocaine is again infused. This technique is repeated again on L2 and L4 to achieve the blocks of T13 , L1 and L2.

Pre-surgical considerations

- Animal should be physically restrained in a stanchion bar or squeeze chute.
- Pre-anesthetic medication is indicated for this procedure. A mixture of xylazine 0.025 mg/kg and 0.05mg/kg ketamine IM was used.
- Injection sites should be cleaned properly with alcohol swab

Indications

This technique can be applied in conjunction with pre-anesthetic medication to allow for but not limited to standing surgeries such as:

- Cesarean Section
- LDA/RDA correction
- Rumenotomy

Contraindications

Improper execution of the blocks will not achieve required anesthesia on the flank region. Attempt at any surgical procedure will cause pain to the animal and predispose the surgeon and handlers to physical danger