

DO NOT FORGET · THE SHORT CHECKLIST

Femoral nerve block

Ultrasound-guided injection of local anaesthetic around the femoral nerve to provide analgesia for femoral shaft fractures, hip fractures and anterior thigh injury.

EM Orbit

Patient reference	Date	Time	Completed by

The 7 steps that must not be missed

- [ ] BEFORE
Confirm 20% lipid emulsion and resuscitation equipment are available before injecting.

- [ ] BEFORE
Perform 'Stop Before You Block': confirm the correct side with the patient and the marked limb immediately before needle insertion.
Wrong-side block is a never event.

- [ ] DURING
If the needle tip cannot be seen, stop advancing and realign the probe or the needle.

- [ ] DURING
Aspirate before every injection to exclude intravascular placement.

- [ ] DURING
Stop injecting if the patient reports severe pain or paraesthesia, if there is high resistance, or if the nerve swells (intraneural injection); reposition.

- [ ] DURING
If local anaesthetic toxicity is suspected, stop injecting, call for help, manage the airway, and give 20% lipid emulsion 1.5 mL/kg IV bolus followed by infusion per the national LAST guideline.

- [ ] AFTER
Warn the patient and the nurse that the leg will be weak and numb, and that the patient must not stand or walk unaided.
Falls risk.

The short list: an aid to memory, not the whole procedure. The full checklist is at the QR code. It does not replace your local protocol or your clinical judgement.