

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PROCEDURE

LEG PERIPHERAL NERVE BLOCK

How we do the procedure

A **leg peripheral nerve block** is performed at the site of a particular peripheral nerve in the leg, typically the **genital or femoral** (groin), **sciatic** (buttock), **obturator** (groin), or **tibial, saphenous, sural, superficial peroneal or deep peroneal** (knee or ankle) for pain associated with a neuralgia which can occur as a result of injury from prior surgery or irritation from scar tissue, radiation, cancer, or other processes.

What to expect

Part of the leg may be numb for several hours from the local anesthetic that is injected around the nerve. This will wear off after a few hours. Typically a steroid (NOT the kind that increases muscle size in athletes) is injected. This will begin to work in 1-5 days. Depending on your response, we may repeat the injection in two weeks. If no substantial effects are obtained after one or two injections, we will discuss other alternatives.

Risks

The risks include bleeding, infection and a reaction to any of the medications used for the procedure. We use sterile technique to avoid infections. If you are taking a "blood thinner" (anticoagulant), we will give you special instructions before the procedure to avoid excess bleeding.

Safety Precautions

Please be careful when walking if you have any weakness in your leg.

Since your ability to drive may be impaired for a few hours, we ask that you have someone drive you home.

Injected steroids occasionally cause nervousness, difficulty sleeping, a flushed feeling (like hot flashes), an increased appetite, an elevated blood sugar, or a "moon face" (rounded face) for several days.