

## **SONOSITE**

# TAP Block Quick Guide

Any patient. Anywhere. Anytime.



Information contained in this document is meant for quick reference and a supplement to formal ultrasound experience, education or training.

# **TAP Block**

### Objective

Tap blocks are performed to provide post operative analgesia for patients undergoing abdominal surgery.

#### **Procedure Description:**

- Begin by placing the ultrasound transducer subcostal at the anterior axillary line.
- The external oblique, internal oblique and transversus abdominis muscles should be identified.
- Use the in plane needle technique with a medial to lateral approach. Local anesthetic is deposited superficial to the transversus abdominis muscle and deep to the fascia located superficial to the muscle.



FIG. 1: External oblique, internal oblique, and transverse abdominis muscles and transducer location

#### Clinical Pearls

#### **Patient Positioning:**

Supine

#### Transducer:

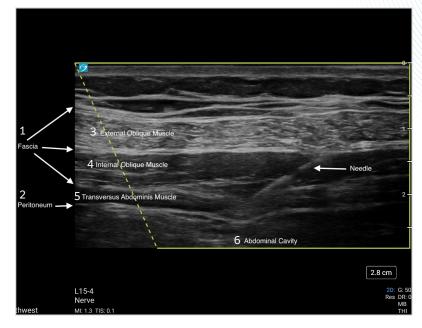
L12-3, L15-4

#### Technique:

- The TAP block is a fascial plane block. Like most fascial plane blocks the success of the block is volume dependent.
- The TAP block provides only somatic analgesia to the anterior abdominal wall. It does not provide visceral analgesia.
- A more lateral/posterior injection of local anesthetic will allow for coverage of the lower abdomen for example the pfannenstiel incision for C-sections. A medial/anterior injection will provide better coverage of the mid/upper abdomen.

#### **Teaching Points:**

- The Tap Block performed at the costal border of the abdomen will ensure optimal coverage of the abdominal wall.
- T7 coverage is not reliable from a TAP block. TAP blocks may be combined with rectus sheath blocks for optimal coverage of the abdominal wall.



#### FIG. 2

- 1. Fascia
- 2. Peritoneum
- 3. External oblique muscle
- 4. Internal oblique muscle
- 5. Transversus abdominis muscle
- 6. Abdominal cavity

#### Any patient. Anywhere. Anytime.





## Any patient. Anywhere. Anytime.

#### FUJIFILM Sonosite, Inc.

Worldwide Headquarters 21919 30th Drive SE, Bothell, WA 98021–3904 Tel: +1 (425) 951 1200 or +1 (877) 657 8050 Fax: +1 (425) 951 6800

sonosite.com

This material is intended for healthcare professionals and not for patients or consumers. The information in this material is provided for general educational purposes, as a convenient quick reference and a supplement to professional experience, education and training, and should not be considered the exclusive source for this type of information. This material does not replace or supersede device labeling, including instructions for use, which accompanies any FUJIFILM Sonosite product. At all times, it is the professional responsibility of the practitioner to exercise independent clinical judgment in each particular situation. FUJIFILM assumes no responsibility or liability for any misuse of this material. FUJIFILM Sonosite would like to thank Dr. Daniel G. Malone, MD, RMSK, FACR for his contributions to this program.

SONOSITE and the SONOSITE logo are registered and unregistered trademarks of FUJIFILM Sonosite, Inc. in various jurisdictions. FUJIFILM is a registered trademark of FUJIFILM Corporation in various jurisdictions. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

Copyright © 2024 FUJIFILM Sonosite, Inc. All rights reserved. Subject to change.