

Professional Enrichment Course

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Office of Medical Education

Introduction to Regional Anesthesia: Learning Ultrasound Guided Nerve Blocks

Brief Description:	This three evening course (5-7 pm) will introduce students to ultrasound-guided peripheral nerve blocks and other aspects of regional anesthesia, with particular focus on upper extremity and brachial plexus blocks. Course sessions will include a short (20 min) didactic session, covering gross anatomy, ultrasound anatomy, use of ultrasound for nerve blocks, and safety during peripheral nerve blockade. Didactic sessions are followed by skill-building exercises that include ultrasound scanning with simulated patients to emphasize upper extremity and lower extremity ultrasound anatomy, and practice with a cadaver arm in order to develop needle guidance/ultrasound skills. If time allows we will also cover ultrasound-guided vascular access.	
Objectives:	Learn anatomy of structures associated with brachial plexus nerve blocks.	
	2. Learn sonographic anatomy of these structures.	
	3. Practice needle guidance techniques after visualizing the nerves in a cadaver arm to simulate peripheral nerve block placement.	
	4. Learn techniques involved in correct placement of brachial plexus blockade.	
	5. Understand the benefits of regional anesthesia in surgical pain control (esp. in orthopedics, general surgery, thoracic surgery, and obstetrics).	
	6. Learn how ultrasound can minimize the risks associated with peripheral nerve blocks.	
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Contact:	Steven Orebaugh, MD orebaughsl@anes.upmc.edu	
Department:	AnesthesiologyJ	
Location:	Anatomy Lab area, Medical School (Scaife Hall)	
Reporting Info/First Day Location	5 p.m. on Tuesday January 28	
Maximum # of students	18	
Minimum # of students	6	

MS1 (Class of 2028)						
Week	Start Date (Mon)	End Date (Fri)	Available?			
5	TUE 9/3/2024	9/6/2024				
12	TUE 10/22/2024	10/25/2024				
26	1/27/2025	1/31/2025	Preferred			
30	2/24/2025	2/28/2025				
59	9/16/2025	9/20/2025				
MS2 (Class of 2027)						
Week	Start Date (Mon)	End Date (Fri)	Available?			
59	9/16/24	9/20/24				
70	12/2/2024	12/6/2024				

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
AM					
PM		Jan 28 5-7 pm	Jan 29 5-7 pm	Jan 30 5-7 pm	

Schedule splitting:	
Would it be possible for students to take SOME of the weekly schedule (e.g., just mornings or just a few half-days), or would you prefer that a student take the schedule in its entirety?	Full required
[bold your choice]	
If so above, please designate which parts of your schedule this would impact	

[INSERT FULL SYLLABUS HERE]