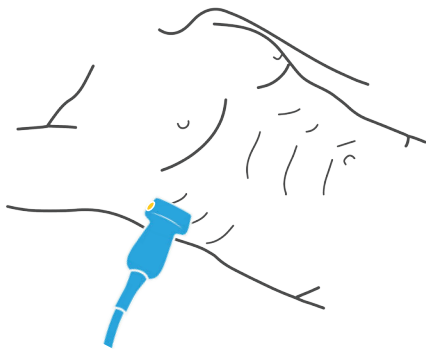


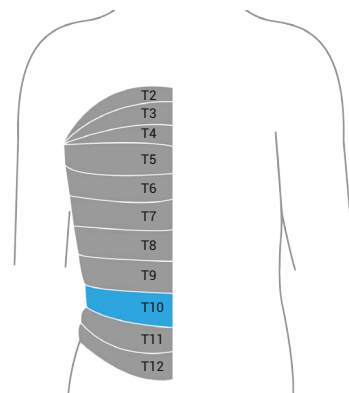
## Torso nerve blocks

# PERFORMING AN ULTRASOUND-GUIDED INTERCOSTAL NERVE BLOCK

### Probe position



### Distribution



Perform this block with 5–10 mL of long-acting anesthetic (e.g., ropivacaine). Aim your needle below the inferior border of your target rib. Ensure that you place a color Doppler gate over your target before (or while) you inject your anesthetic to ensure you are not injecting intravascularly. This block requires precision and careful hand-eye coordination. It is imperative that you do not puncture the lung, ensure that you identify normal lung sliding before and after the procedure.

This is a higher risk block given the proximity to the lungs, but one that carries distinctive clinical value.

This block is quite effective for the following circumstances:

- rib fractures
- breast surgery
- chest wall abscess drainage

