

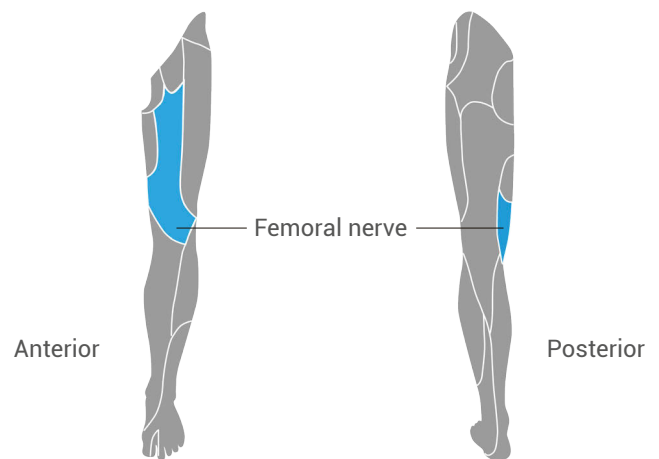
## Mastering lower extremity nerve blocks

# PERFORMING AN ULTRASOUND- GUIDED FEMORAL NERVE BLOCK

### Probe position



### Distribution



Perform this block with 10–15 mL of anesthetic and choose a short- or long-acting agent depending on how long you want your block to last. Aim to hydrodissect the femoral nerve within the femoral canal. Find the nerve quickly by locating the femoral artery. The nerve is directly lateral to it, almost adjacent. Sometimes a subtle change in the angle of the probe will make the nerve appear more clearly. Remember the mnemonic NAVEL (nerve, artery, vein, empty, lymph).

The femoral nerve block is quite effective for the following circumstances:

- procedures to the anterior thigh
- arthroscopic knee surgeries
- femoral shaft fractures (especially in pediatric patients)

