

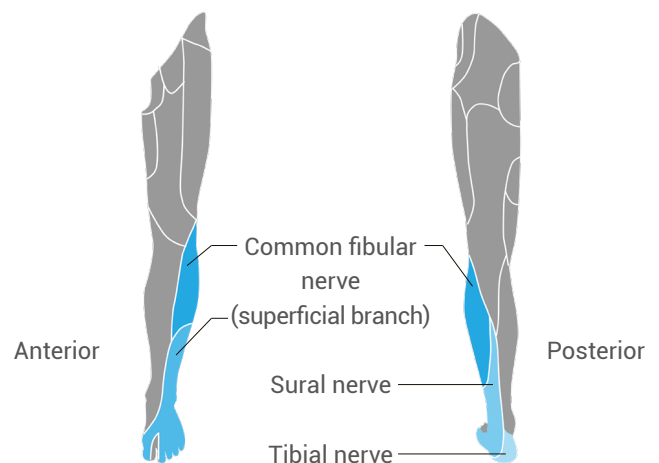
## Mastering lower extremity nerve blocks

# PERFORMING AN ULTRASOUND- GUIDED SCIATIC NERVE BLOCK

### Probe position



### Distribution



Perform this block with 10–15 mL of anesthetic. Find the sciatic nerve as the common peroneal (or fibular) and tibial nerve come together, proximal to the popliteal fossa (think of a bow tie). Usually a short-acting anesthetic is sufficient. The block is most easily performed if you can get your patient in the prone position. Aim to hydrodissect the sciatic nerve to ensure an adequate block.

Careful in patients with tibia-fibular fractures; this block will anesthetize the lower leg, making the

exam more difficult, especially if you are looking for signs of compartment syndrome. If you do use this block, use a short-acting anesthetic in these patients.

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

- laceration repair
- abscess drainage
- foreign body removal

