

Pain Management

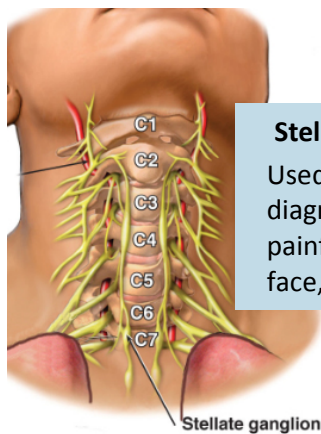
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Stellate Ganglion

Group of nerves in neck, next to the spine.

- Part of larger system of nerves called “autonomic nervous system”.
- These nerves help control the size of blood vessels that flow to the arms, head, and neck.
- These nerves may also send pain signals from the head, neck, or arms.



Stellate Ganglion Block

Used for treating and diagnosing a number of painful conditions in the face, neck, and arms.

How the block helps

- Injection blocks messages sent by the nerves.
- If these nerves are sending the pain signals, the pain will be reduced after the injection.

We call you several days before the procedure

We will tell you:

1. Where and when to arrive.
2. When to stop drinking and eating.

Medicines and Allergies:

1. We will ask for the name and dose of all medicines your child takes.
2. We will ask if your child has allergies.

Note: You may need to stop taking some of your medicines before the procedure.

Stellate Ganglion Block

How we give the block

Takes approximately 15 to 20 minutes

1. We start an IV and give medicine to relax.
2. You lie on your back on the x-ray table.
3. We clean the skin on your neck to help decrease chance of infection.
4. Doctor injects small area with numbing medicine.
5. Imaging guides your doctor during the injection.

Please know:

You should *not* have this procedure if you:

1. Have allergies to any x-ray dye, seafood, Lasix, or any of the medicines we may inject.
2. Are on a blood thinning medicine such as Coumadin, heparin, or Lovenox.
3. Have an active infection.
4. Have a temperature over 101 degrees..
5. Have a low platelet count.

Risks

Generally speaking, this procedure is safe.

However, like any procedure there are risks, side effects, and the possibility of complications.

Risks may include but are not limited to:

- Bruising
- Infections
- Tenderness
- Headache
- Nerve damage
- Bleeding at the injection site
- Temporary weakness
- Very rarely pneumothorax, stroke, seizure, loss of consciousness

These instructions are only general guidelines. Your doctors may give you special instructions. If you have any questions or concerns, please call your doctor.