

Syllabus	
Topic	Wrong side block

**a)**

List 4 possible implications for the patient of an inadvertent wrong sided peripheral block (4 marks)

- 1) .....
- 2) .....
- 3) .....
- 4) .....

**b)**

List 4 factors have been identified as contributing to a wrong side block (4 marks)

- 1) .....
- 2) .....
- 3) .....
- 4) .....

**c)**

What 2 recommendations does the Stop Before You Block campaign make to reduce the risk of this never event happening? (2 marks)

- 1) .....
- 2) .....

**d)**

What is a never event? (1 mark)

.....  
.....

**e)**

List 5 never events other than wrong side block/surgery relevant to anaesthetics and intensive care (5 marks)

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

4) .....

5) .....

**f)**

List 4 steps that should be taken after a never event? (4 marks)

1) .....

2) .....

3) .....

4) .....

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	Answer	Marks	Guidance
a)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nerve injury</li> <li>• Local anaesthetic toxicity</li> <li>• Delayed hospital discharge</li> <li>• Reduced mobility or dexterity</li> <li>• Wrong-site surgery</li> <li>• Patient dissatisfaction/distrust</li> <li>• Delay start of surgery</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max.4)	
b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distraction in the anaesthetic room</li> <li>• Social activity in the anaesthetic room</li> <li>• Time delay between the WHO sign and performance of the nerve block</li> <li>• Covering-up of the surgical mark with blankets/sheets</li> <li>• Junior anaesthetists</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max.4)	
c)	<p>Immediately before needle insertion the correct side is confirmed again:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visualizing the arrow</li> <li>• Asking the patient to confirm the side of surgery if conscious, if not double checking the consent form for operative side.</li> </ul>	1 1	
d)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A <u>serious</u>, largely <u>preventable</u> patient safety incident that should not occur if the available preventative measures have been implemented.</li> </ul>	1	Must include serious (1/2) and preventable (1/2) for full marks.
e)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retained throat swab or CVC guide wire</li> <li>• Overdose of midazolam during conscious sedation</li> <li>• Wrong side surgery/block</li> <li>• Wrongly prepared high risk injectable medication</li> <li>• Maladministration of potassium-containing solutions</li> <li>• Wrong route of administration of oral/enteral treatment</li> <li>• Iv administration of epidural medication</li> <li>• Opioid overdose in opioid naïve patient</li> <li>• Transfusion of ABO incompatible blood components</li> <li>• Misplaced naso or oro-gastric tubes</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max.5)	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrong gas administration</li> <li>• Failure to monitor or respond to oxygen saturation</li> <li>• Air embolism</li> <li>• Maternal death because of post-partum haemorrhage after elective caesarean section</li> <li>• Misidentification of patient</li> </ul>		
f)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempt at immediate restitution of harm to the patient</li> <li>• Reporting the incident through the hospital's own risk management system</li> <li>• Onward reporting to the Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS England</li> <li>• Communication with the patient/carers/relatives in line with the Being Open Policy</li> <li>• Undertaking root cause analysis</li> <li>• Implementing and sharing the lessons learnt including any procedural changes after the root cause analysis</li> </ul>	1 mark for each point (Max.4)	

### References

- 1) Adyanthaya SS, Patil V. Never events: an anaesthetic perspective. CEACCP (2014) 14(5)197–201 <https://academic.oup.com/bjaed/article/14/5/197/286694>
- 2) Regional anaesthesia UK. Stop before you block campaign. <https://www.ra-uk.org/index.php/stop-before-you-block>