POPLITEAL SCIATIC NERVE BLOCK UNDER ULTRASOUND:
THE "OWL’S EYES" SIGN!

El Bouazzaoui Abderrahim, Touzani Soumaya, Houari Nawfal, Boukatta Brahim, Kanjaa Nabil
Intensive Care Unit, Hassan II³ University Hospital, Fez, Morocco.
Medical School of Fez, Sidi Mohammed Benabdellah University, Fez, Morocco.

Corresponding Author:
El Bouazzaoui Abderrahim, MD.
Address: Intensive Care Unit, Hassan II³ University Hospital, Fez, Morocco
Email: elbouazzaouiabderrahim@gmail.com

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Ultrasound represents the latest major technological development in the practice of local anesthesia. This technique allows the visualization of anatomical variations, asymptomatic intra-neuronal injections, reduction of the volumes of local anesthetics used and real-time validation of the injection or positioning of a catheter. At the same time, a new medical vocabulary specific to this practice is emerging. Thus, the owl’s sign designates the circumferential diffusion of the local anesthetic around the two trunks of the sciatic nerve: the common fibular nerve and the tibial nerve during the execution of the sciatic nerve block at the popliteal fossa. Indeed, this diffusion is the origin of a double image evoking the two eyes of an owl.

Figure: Popliteal sciatic nerve block under ultrasound:
The "owl’s eyes" sign!