



numnuts[®]

Instruction manual

Contents

About the Numnuts device	4
Attaching the needle	6
Broaching the NumOcaine bottle and attaching to device	7
Priming the device	8
Using the Numnuts device	8
Releasing the ring	9
Directions for use – Tail docking	10
Directions for use – Castration	11
Cleaning and maintenance	12
Troubleshooting	14



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a video instead!

Providing pain relief is a better choice

Thanks for demonstrating your commitment to animal welfare. Numnuts was developed specifically to deliver pain relief in lambs following ring castration or tail docking.

This patented device applies a standard Elastrator® rubber ring and then safely injects a calibrated dose of NumOcaine® (lignocaine).

Lignocaine is a rapid-acting local anaesthetic that is commonly used for pain relief in humans.

NumOcaine starts numbing the site within 60 seconds and blocks the intense, acute pain that occurs in the first 60 minutes after ring castration or tail docking.

Using Numnuts and NumOcaine demonstrates your commitment to achieving best-practice animal welfare standards.

Providing pain relief during animal husbandry procedures is a better choice for your livestock, your business and your industry.

What's in the box?

1 x Numnuts device

1 x Two-stage injector

1 x Fluid junction and O-ring

1 x Tray of 12 needles

1 x Instruction booklet

About the Numnuts device

NumOcaine bottle

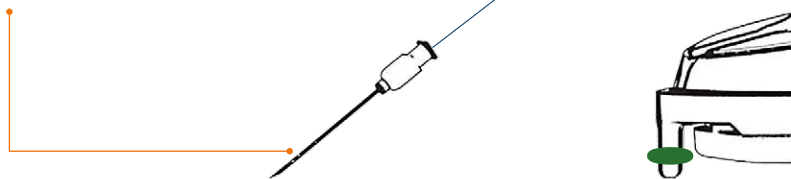
The 100 mL NumOcaine bottle fits straight into the device. There is no cumbersome tubing that can get in the way or become entangled with other equipment or livestock.

Quick-change cartridge

Each bottle is fitted with a tamper-resistant cartridge that allows bottles to be changed quickly, easily and safely. The operator is protected from the broaching spike.

Stainless steel needle

The high quality 18 gauge stainless steel needle automatically retracts after administration, minimising the risk of needle stick injury. NB: Third-party needles are unsuitable for use with the Numnuts device.



Tips: Purchasing a second device will enable continuous operation without having to stop to fit a new bottle. Using one device for castration and one for docking will enable more efficient operation if there are separate marking and docking stations. Keep the Numnuts device upright when not in use.



Two-stage injector

The two-stage injector automatically extends and angles the needle to the correct position. The local anaesthetic will only be dispensed if the needle is correctly engaged.

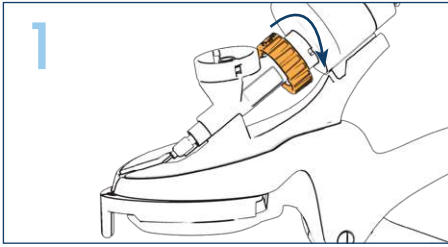
Fluid junction and O-ring seal

The fluid junction and O-ring seal ensure hygienic and effective delivery of the local anaesthetic. The clear window allows the operator to confirm the device is primed and when bottles need to be replaced.

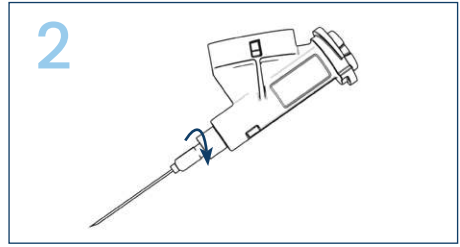
Ring applicator

The ergonomic Numnuts device can be easily used by all operators, regardless of hand size, strength or left/right handedness. Minimal force is required to hold the device open.

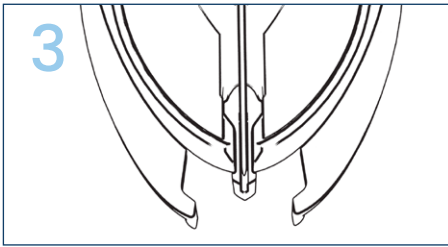
Attaching the needle



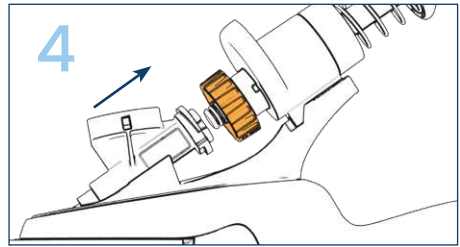
Detach the fluid junction and needle from the injector by rotating the orange lock nut and sliding the fluid junction forward.



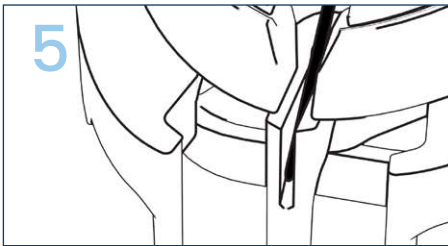
Remove the needle using needle nose pliers, if necessary. Screw needle on to the fluid junction until finger tight.



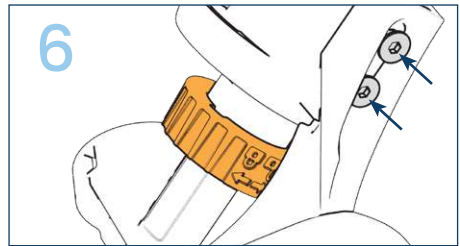
Squeeze the device trigger to open the front pins. Place the needle into the front pin slot and fluid junction lugs into the slots in the device.



Slide the fluid junction back into the injection mechanism and secure by turning the orange lock nut until finger tight.

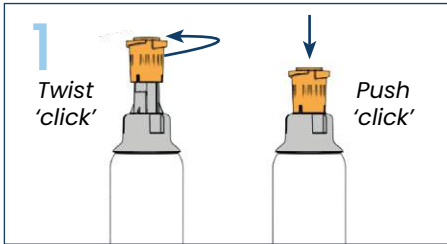


Check the position of the needle. When injector is fully retracted, the needle tip should be about 2 mm hidden inside the front pin.

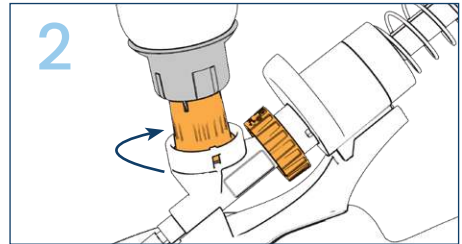


To adjust needle position, loosen the two screws under the injector using a 2.5 mm hex key. Move accordingly and tighten to secure.

Attaching NumOcaine bottle to device



Place the bottle on a flat surface. Whilst holding the grey collar of the Quick Change Cartridge, twist the orange cap to break the seal. You will hear a 'click'. Now push the orange cap down squarely to broach the bottle. You will hear a 'click'.



Place the Quick Change Cartridge onto the fluid junction. Twist the orange collar until tight. Over-tightening can crack the fluid junction.

Tips: Make sure you have a pair of needle nose pliers to remove old needles and a 2.5 mm hex key to adjust needle distance. Replace the needle every 130 procedures (2 bottles). Make sure you purchase sufficient needles. You will need one tray of 12 needles for every 1560 procedures performed (approx. 1000 lambs).

Make sure you purchase the correct number of NumOcaine bottles. The number of NumOcaine bottles required will depend on the number of lambs to be castrated and the number of lambs to be tail docked. Each 100 mL bottle is sufficient for 65 procedures.

No. of 100 mL bottles of = $\frac{\text{No. of lambs to be tail docked} + \text{No. of lambs to be castrated}}{65}$
NumOcaine required

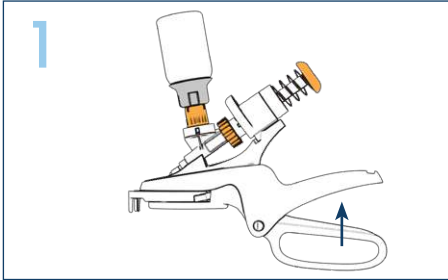


Scan here to watch
video about replacing
the needle.

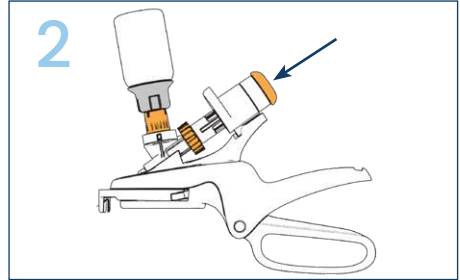


Scan here to watch
video about changing
NumOcaine bottles.

Priming the device



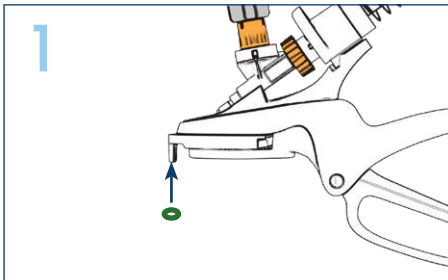
Squeeze the device trigger to open the pins.



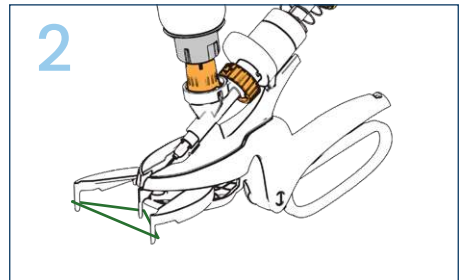
Fully depress and release the injector button two or three times until fluid is present in fluid junction.

Tips: It is normal to have a small air bubble in the injector. Trapped air in the injector can be ejected by depressing the injector button whilst holding the device with the needle pointing upwards. Whilst still pressing injector, rotate tool so that it is level again. Release button. Monitor the amount of fluid left in the NumOcaine bottle. Do not allow the bottle to completely drain to avoid having to re-prime the fluid system in the Numnuts device.

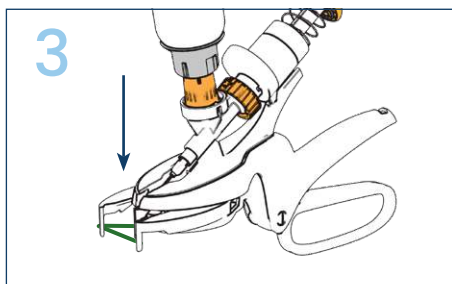
Using the Numnuts device



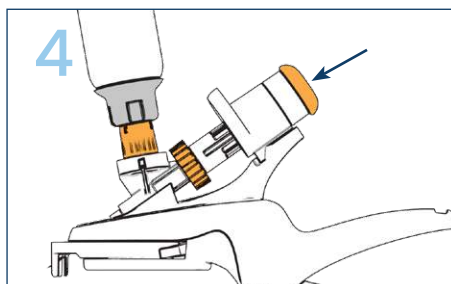
Press ring onto the three front pins on the Numnuts device.



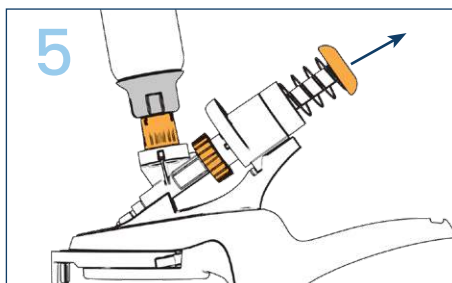
Squeeze the trigger to fully open the ring.



Place the ring over the tail or scrotum and release the trigger. The stretched ring will hold the device in position while you depress the injector.



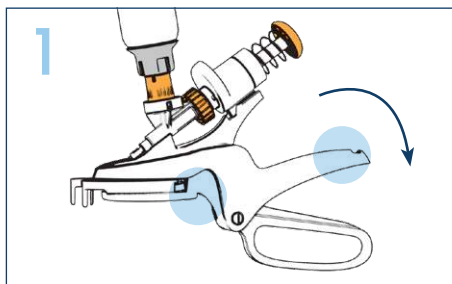
Fully depress the injector to deliver the entire 1.5 mL dose of NumOcaine.



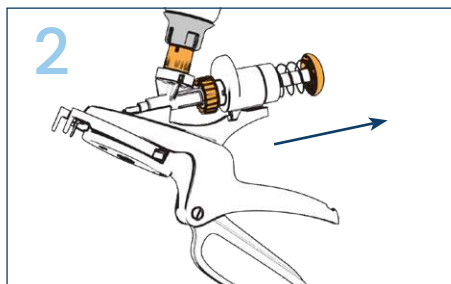
Release the injector button.

Tips: New operators should practice using the Numnuts device on a banana or similar object before using it on lambs. Most operators are proficient using the Numnuts device within about 30 procedures.

Releasing the ring



Hold the Numnuts device by the 'neck' or tail.

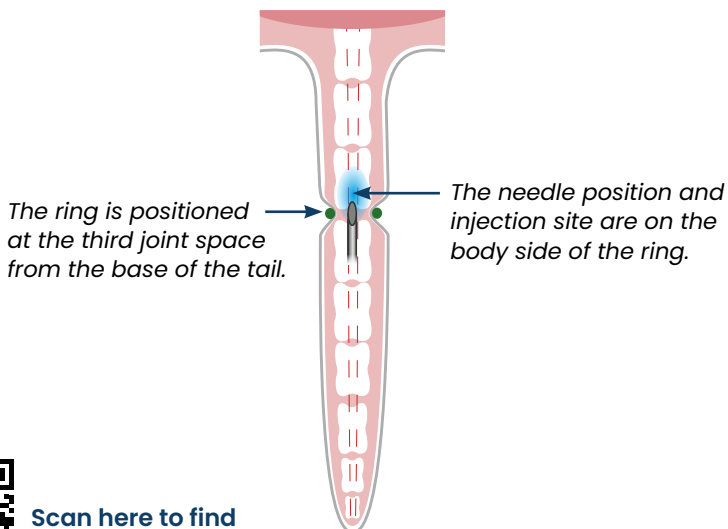
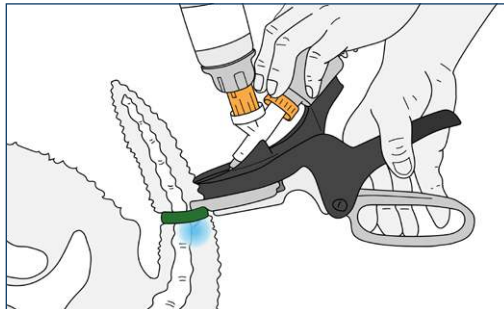


Tilt the applicator down and back to release the ring in position.

Tips: Do not squeeze the trigger when releasing the ring. Holding the tail or testicles whilst tilting assists ring removal. Incorrectly applied rings can be removed safely using the Numnuts Ring Remover.

Directions for use – Tail docking

Position the lamb on its back in the cradle, with its tail nearest the operator. Apply a standard Elastrator ring using the Numnuts device. The recommended location is the third or fourth joint space from the base of the tail, felt by hand. Position the needle on the body side of the ring and press the two-stage injector. The Numnuts device automatically extends and angles the needle to the correct position, injecting NumOcaine on the body side of the ring.

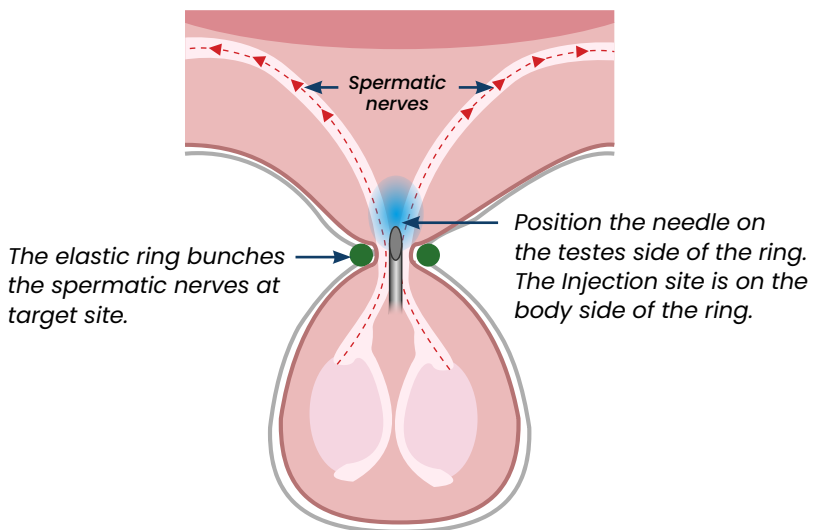
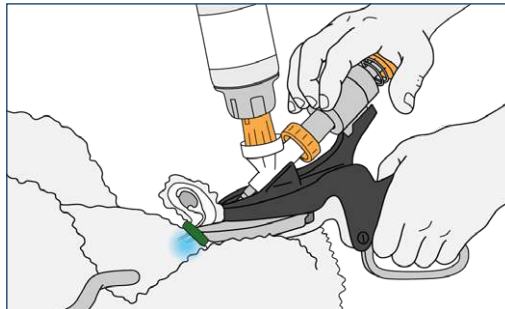


Scan here to find out how to make a Numnuts holder!

Tips: Docking requires one ring and one dose.

Directions for use – Castration

Position the lamb on its back in the cradle, with its tail nearest the operator. Apply a standard Elastrator ring using the Numnuts device. Position the needle on the testes side of the ring and press the two-stage injector. The Numnuts device automatically extends and angles the needle to the correct position, injecting NumOcaine on the body side of the ring.



Tips: Castration requires one ring and one dose. When injecting wrinkled sheep, scoop forward and slightly up to create skin tension around the testicles prior to injection.

Cleaning and maintenance

Maintenance

With proper care and maintenance, your Numnuts device should last at least 100,000 procedures. Like any animal health or veterinary tool, it should be cleaned regularly and any worn parts replaced. Complete devices and spare parts can be purchased from your rural supplier or veterinarian.



Cleaning

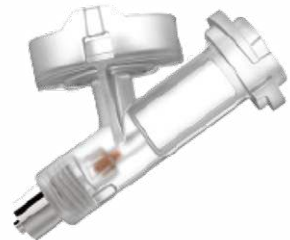
Thoroughly clean the Numnuts device at the end of each day. Wash with hot soapy water to remove dirt and clean with a brush. Remove the fluid junction and clean in hot, soapy water. Apply a dry silicone or PTFE spray to the ring device and injector mechanism. Lubricate the O-ring that sits inside the fluid junction with vegetable or olive oil to keep the injector leak-free and moving freely. Do not use a synthetic or non-food grade lubricant. Store the device and spare parts in an airtight container out of sunlight.



**Scan here to
watch video.**

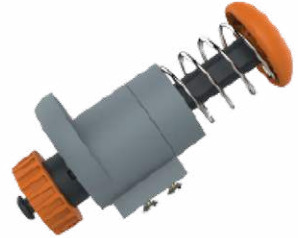
Fluid junction and O-ring

Replace the fluid junction after every 2,000 procedures or at the end of each season. Replace the O-ring at the end of each season or if visible wear can be seen. Always have a spare fluid junction and O-ring on hand.



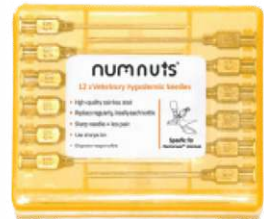
Two-stage injector

Replace the two-stage injector as required (typically, 30,000 to 100,00 procedures). Follow the instructions to ensure the maximum needle depth is not exceeded. When the injector is pressed fully, the tip of the needle should protrude between 11 and 12 mm from the device. It is advisable to have a spare two-stage injector on hand.



Needles

Replace the needle every 130 procedures (i.e. two x 100 mL bottles of NumOcaine). The correct type, size and gauge of needle is critical to ensure correct injection depth and operator safety. Do not use third-party needles with the Numnuts device.



Tips: Make sure you always have a spare fluid junction, two-stage injector, O-rings and needles for your Numnuts device.

numnuts®

Troubleshooting

1. Injector not fully depressing

The most likely cause is the needle hitting a hard element, such as a tail bone. Reposition the device at another angle, moving slightly to the side.

2. Injector not returning smoothly

Remove the fluid junction and lubricate the O-ring with vegetable or olive oil. Replace the O-ring if worn. If the injector still does not cycle smoothly when the fluid junction is detached, clean the injector body and apply a silicone or PTFE lubricant into the injection mechanism. Do not spray the O-ring. If the injector still does not cycle smoothly when the bottle is attached, check the fluid flow from the Quick Change Cartridge to the fluid junction barrel. Refer to Troubleshooting Item 5.

3. Leaking at front or rear of fluid junction

Ensure that the needle and orange lock nut securing the fluid junction are firmly attached. Replace fluid junction if leaking continues.

4. Quick Change Cartridge and fluid junction is leaking or not priming

Ensure the Quick Change Cartridge is fully broached by pushing with the palm until you hear a 'click'. Ensure the quick change cartridge is installed correctly to the fluid junction. Refer to Page 7. Check the fluid junction for hairline cracks around the connection points and fluid channels. Replace the fluid junction if necessary.

5. Quick change cartridge seems blocked or fluid flow is very slow

If the plunger is slow to return or fluid is slow to reach the barrel, there may be a problem with the bottle, the two-stage injector or the broaching spike. First, rotate the grey collar on the bottle two turns to free any rubber bung material that may be blocking the spike. If this does not resolve the issue, replace with a new bottle.

6. Mis-injections or 'blowback'

On wrinkled sheep or misinjection occurring around testicles, scoop the device forward and slightly up to create skin tension around the testicles prior to injection.

7. Lambs with wobbly hind legs

An epidural effect has been observed in a very small number of lambs after tail docking using the Numnuts device and treatment with NumOcaine. Affected lambs exhibited temporary hind-limb paralysis lasting less than one hour. Place any affected lambs in a separate holding pen until normal hind-limb movement is regained. Take extra care when injecting NumOcaine into the tail. Use a slow and steady plunger action. Do not force the injection.

The logo for Numnuts, featuring the word "numnuts" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter 'm' is stylized with a small orange dot above it. The letter 't' is stylized with a small orange crossbar above it. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the 's'.



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**Contact your Dechra territory manager,
rural reseller or veterinarian
for more information.**

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