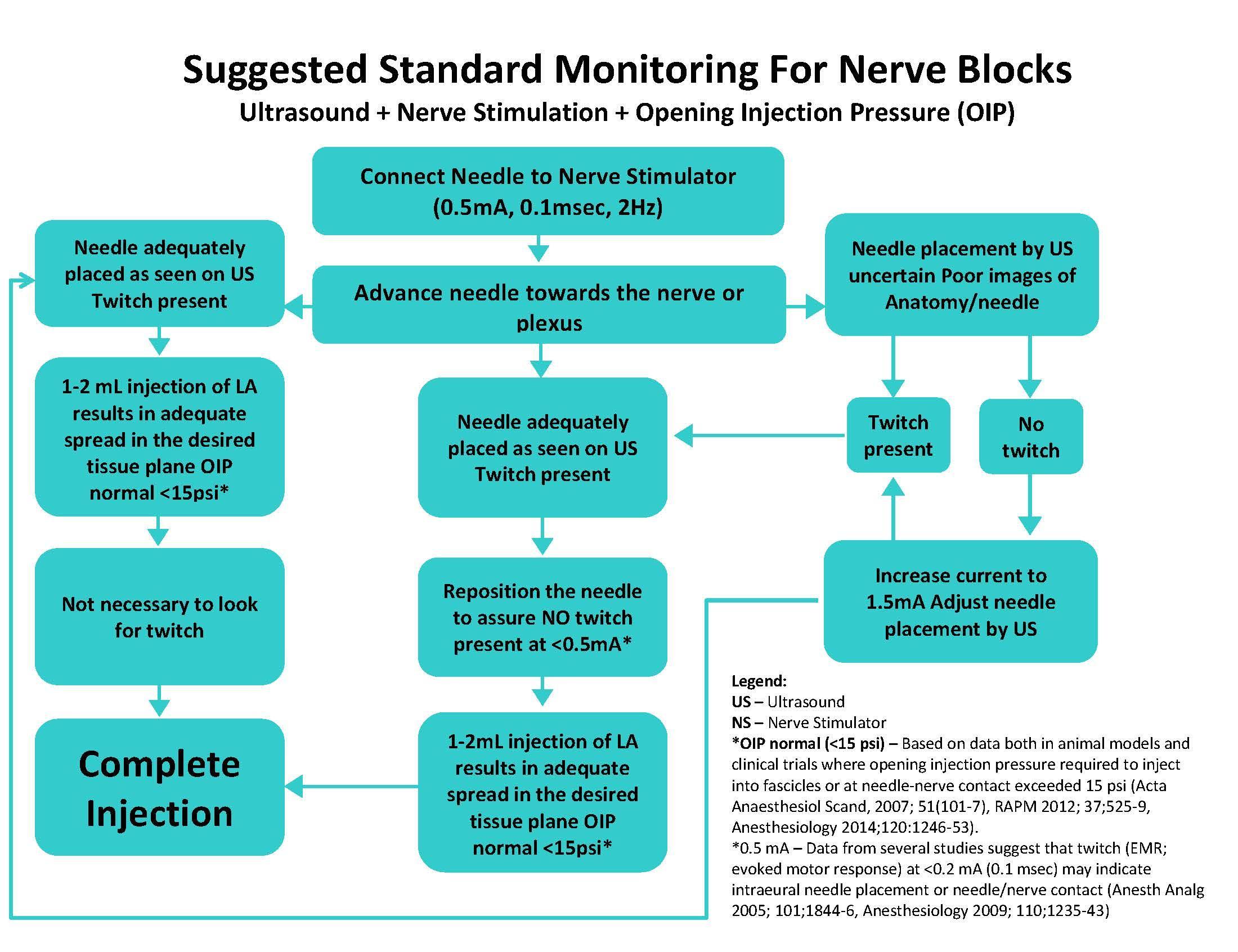
**CURRENT TRENDS**

* Complications in Paediatric RA (ADARPEF Study in 1996, 2010)
* Overall RA complication rate in children is low at 0.09-0.12%.
* Complications are more frequent in children<6 months
* CNB has higher (6X) complications than PNB
* Trends in Paediatric RA
* There is a move from CNB to PNB (40%→66% in ADARPEF’s study)
* Caudals still account for most (80%) of CNB
* PNB offers the advantage of providing a target-controlled area of localized anaesthesia / analgesia, reducing the amount of LA used, thus systemic absorption is smaller. It is most useful in cases where CNB is contraindicated Eg. Truncal PNB may substitute CNB for laparotomy
* Technique evolution
* Timeline
  + - 1962- nerve stimulator
    - 1994- ultrasound
    - 2003- ultrasound in paediatric RA
* Ultrasound vs nerve stimulator
  + - Shorter block performance time
    - Higher success rate
    - Longer block duration
    - Less volume of LA
    - Visibility of neuraxial structures esp in infants<3mth old
    - Useful in paralysed patients or those with neuropathy



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