

Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy

Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy (FNAB) can be defined as the removal of a sample of cells for diagnostic purposes. FNAB are performed on palpable organs (breast, thyroid, lymph nodes, soft tissue) or deep-seeded organs (liver, kidney, ect) using a fine needle. Deep-seeded FNAB is obtained through CT Scan or Ultrasound.

There are different techniques in aspirating cells from a mass. Any questions about how to aspirate a mass should be directed to the Pathologist for assistance.

DIRECTIONS

To ensure optimal number of adequate cells on palpable organ or deep-seeded organ, the presence of a Cytopathologist/Cytotechnologist is recommended for assistance.

However, if neither Cytopathologist or Cytotechnologist is assisting, follow the fluids section for breast mass or rinse the needle in 95% alcohol containers. Rinsing the needle in 95% alcohol is a good practice in recovering of cells left in the needle. If additional passes are made in the same location, rinsing the needle in the same 95% alcohol container is acceptable. If another site is needed, then a new container and separate *Cytology Specimen Requisition* form is REQUIRED. Bring the specimen to the laboratory immediately. If unable to bring immediately, place specimen in refrigerator until it is brought to laboratory.

NOTE: For needling lymph nodes and clinically suspicious for lymphoproliferative disorder (leukemia/lymphoma), it is recommended that 2 – 5 cc of fluid be placed in RPMI. Contact the laboratory for a vial of RPMI and for any additional information.