

Cytopathology and Surgical Pathology Collection Tips for ENT cases

Objective: To provide a tool for ENT providers in the collection of challenging samples for cytopathology and surgical pathology. **HAVING CYTOPATHOLOGY ON SITE IS RECOMMENDED FOR MOST CASES AND ESPECIALLY IN CASES WHERE THERE IS UNCERTAINTY OF THE DIAGNOSIS OR SITE OF PRIMARY. FOR CASES NOT ALREADY SCHEDULED IN WHICH CYTOLOGY IS URGENTLY NEEDED, PLEASE NOTIFY CYTOLOGY AT 847-5136.**

FNA of neck mass:

- a) Suspect Metastatic HPV-associated carcinoma. Collect:
 - a. 3-4 alcohol-fixed slides to cytology for diagnosis and p16
 - b. 3-4 air dried slides
 - c. 4 passes into RPMI for cell block for possible HPV mRNA-ISH (**specify in order “RPMI for cell block”**)
- b) Suspect Lymphoma:
 - a. Recommend scheduling with Cytology for ROSE, specimen triage varies for low versus high grade lymphoma.
 - b. Collect:
 - i. 3-4 alcohol fixed slides
 - ii. 3-4 air dried slides
 - iii. 4 passes into RPMI for flow cytometry
 - c. If **high grade lymphoma** suspected by cytology/history:
 - i. 1-2 Core tissue preferred. If cores cannot be obtained: Minimum of 4 additional passes into a second RPMI tube for cell block
 - ii. 4 Air dry slides for **cytogenetics (very important to specify “for cytogenetics”)**

FNA of neck node for suspected papillary thyroid carcinoma.

- a) Node is easily accessible, Collect:
 - a. 3-4 alcohol fixed slides
 - b. 3-4 air dried slides
- b) Node is difficult to reach. What’s needed?
 - a. Recommend scheduling with cytology for ROSE
 - b. If diagnostic material difficult to obtain, could obtain aspirate material for thyroglobulin levels. This test is performed by the Mayo Medical Laboratories and requires special collection coordinated through cytology.

FNA of any head and neck site for PDL-1 testing:

- a) Collect:
 - a. 1-2 cores
 - b. If cores cannot be obtained, minimum of 4 FNA passes into RPMI (**indicate “RPMI for cell block”**)
 - i. PDL-1 testing although not ideal, can be performed on FNA CELLBLOCK material as a last resort (cannot be done on smears). Collect: minimum of 4 FNA passes into RPMI for cell block
- b) Please provide a clinical history and if applicable a differential diagnosis when submitting these specimens.