

## References

- Allan, PL, Baxter, GM & Weston, MJ (2011) Clinical Ultrasound , 3rd ed. Churchill Livingstone.
- Chapman, S & Nakielny, R (2014) Guide to Radiological Procedures. 6th ed. China:Saunders Elsevier
- Hoad-Robson, R (2015) Fine-needle Aspiration [ONLINE] Available at: <http://patient.info/health/fine-needle-aspiration>

# Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA)

The Trust endeavours to ensure that the information given here is accurate and impartial.

If you require this information in another language, large print, audio (CD or tape) or braille, please e-mail the Patient Information team at [patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk](mailto:patient.information@ulh.nhs.uk)

Ultrasound Departments

Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm  
Telephone: 01522 573069

[www.ulh.nhs.uk](http://www.ulh.nhs.uk)



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## **Aim of the leaflet**

This leaflet aims to explain the procedure known as an ultrasound guided Fine Needle Aspiration (FNA).

## **What is an FNA?**

This is a common procedure. A small needle is introduced through the skin and a small sample of cells are removed. This sample is then examined within the laboratory and used to assist your doctor in deciding on the appropriate way to manage your treatment.

## **What are the advantages of an FNA?**

It is a quick procedure with very little discomfort. There are less associated complications than with other more invasive procedures, such as no requirement for a hospital stay, anaesthetic, stitches or scarring.

## **Why is local anaesthetic not used?**

Local anaesthetic is not used as it's administration is more uncomfortable than the procedure itself.

## **Prior to the procedure**

**If you are taking warfarin please contact us on 01522 573069.**

When you contact us, if you attend a warfarin clinic, please could you supply us with your most recent INR result.

## **The procedure**

The clinician performing the FNA will use an ultrasound machine to assess you prior to deciding if an FNA can be performed. This is achieved with you laying flat on an examination couch with the region of interest exposed.

The clinician will clean the skin with a cold antiseptic fluid. Then the ultrasound machine will be used to locate the area for sampling. The clinician will warn you prior to the sample being taken and may ask you to remain still.

Once the procedure is complete, pressure will be applied to the wound. After a few minutes the wound will be checked and a small plaster/dressing applied. After which you will be free to leave the department.

## **Results**

The results will be sent to the referring doctor. You will then be contacted by the referring department to be given the results or you may have already been asked to attend a further clinic appointment.

**If you have any further enquiries please feel free to contact the ultrasound department on 01522 573069, Monday to Friday between 9.00am and 5.00pm.**