Biopsy, Fine Needle Aspiration – Med School Associates North - Pathology

**Method:** Microscopy

**CPT Code:**

- 10021
- variable depending on request

**Preferred Specimen:** Direct smears and aspirated material from palpable mass

**Other Acceptable Specimens:** Aspirated material from lymph nodes or cysts

**Specimen Container:**

- Container with 50% methyl or reagent alcohol for aspirate.
- Container with 95% methyl, reagent alcohol or spray fixative to fix slides.
- 8-10 slides for direct smears

**Specimen Identification:** Label slides and container with patient’s first name, last name, DOB and collection date.

**Special Instructions:**

1. Make direct smears on slides first and fix immediately to avoid air-drying.
2. To fix, immediately place slides in 95% ethyl, methyl, reagent alcohol or spray with fixative.
3. Immediately express remaining fluid from syringe in container with 50% ethyl alcohol.
4. Indicate specimen source on requisition and include clinical history and clinical impression as well as reason for doing the aspiration.

**Shipping Requirements:**

- Store and ship room temperature
- Transport to lab as soon as possible.

**Sample Rejection Criteria:**

- Specimen not in alcohol
- Improper fixation of slides
- Inappropriate specimen transport
- Mislabeled specimen
- Unlabeled specimen

**Turn-around-time:** 48 hours