FNA Slide Preparation

Supplies

- Glass slides
- Pencil
- Syringes
- Needles
- Spray fixative or 95 % Etoh
- Empty slide container
- ThyGeNEXT or Afirma vial IF specimen is a thyroid
- ThinPrep/ PreservCyte container
- Vial/tube holders
- Gloves

Preparation

1. Fill out requisition form(s). Gather a copy of the ultrasound results and the clinical history.

2. Put on gloves.

3. Label all slides with patient's name and DOB. If there will be multiple sites, label all slides with the appropriate part letter (i.e. A, B, etc.).

4. Label ThinPrep container and open.

5. Label Afirma/ThyGeNEXT vial and open IF specimen is a thyroid, otherwise skip this step.

6. Prepare slide container with 95 % ETOH OR a slide container labeled "fixed."

7. Prepare a slide container labeled "air dried."

Procedure

1. Take syringe from proceduralist.

2. Hover needle (bevel side away from you) over slide approximately halfway down slide.

3. Use extra slide to cover tip of needle to prevent splatter while very slowly and gently compressing syringe plunger to place a single drop of fluid on to the slide about halfway down the slide.

   ★ *Use the least amount of fluid possible to make the ideal smear.*

4. Quickly put a single drop of aspirate into Afirma/ ThyGeNEXT vial, IF specimen is a thyroid, otherwise skip this step.

5. Quickly put remainder of aspirate into ThinPrep container and rinse syringe.

6. Place slides face down (frosted sides away from each other) and pull apart to create a smear.

   ★ *Oval or egg-shaped smears are ideal.*

7. Spray quickly one smear with fixative or place in ETOH before it becomes air dried. Place in container labeled "fixed."

8. Allow second smear to air dry, then place in slide container labeled "air dried."

9. Rinse needle in ThinPrep container a few times then carefully discard needle in sharps container.

10. Send two slide containers, one ThinPrep container, and one Afirma or ThyGeNEXT (if specimen is a thyroid) in a biohazard bag along with the requisition form(s), clinical history, and ultrasound results to send to Oculus Pathology.

✓ **Ideal FNA Smears**

FNA Pap stain   FNA Diff-Quik

✗ **Too Thick Smear**

FNA Smear

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