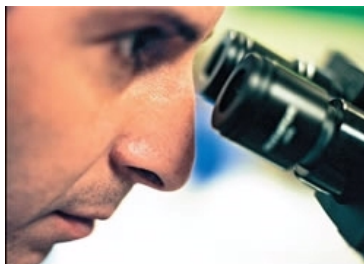


New Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy Clinic

Immediate, Friendly Service



Fine Needle Aspiration biopsy (FNA) is the method by which cells are collected for the purpose of detecting cancer, infection and a variety of other medical conditions. A Board Certified physician, with expertise in cytopathology (the study of changes caused by disease within cells), inserts a thin needle into the tissue to extract a sample of cells from a palpable mass. The sample is then sent to the laboratory for examination including microscopic evaluation, microbiology cultures and flow cytometry (the use of fluorescent light to measure the number and certain characteristics of cells, such as size, shape and the presence of tumor markers).

On May 1, an outpatient Fine Needle Aspiration Clinic opened at the Eisenhower Lucy Curci Cancer Center. Procedures are performed by Eisenhower Medical Center's Barbara Comess, MD, Dennis Frisman, MD, Patti Richardson, MD and Phillip Cacheris, MD. Services are offered Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Advantages of FNAs are convenience and accessibility to patients and physicians, minimal invasiveness and rapidity of diagnosis. Results are often available within 24 hours.