

**Date:** April 5, 2013

**To:** South Zone – West  
Physicians, Nursing Unit Managers and Laboratory Staff

**From:** AHS Laboratory Services – South Zone West  
Dr. Csaba Hegedus, Consultant Pathologist for Cytopathology

**Re:** Booking of Fine Needle Aspirate (FNA) Procedures Performed by a Pathologist

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**PLEASE POST OR DISTRIBUTE AS WIDELY AS APPROPRIATE**

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**Key Messages:**

- FNA procedures can be booked through the Cytopathology department for palpable masses.
- A Pathologist will perform the procedure.
- These procedures will be performed ONLY when a referral letter has been received by the Pathologist along with a complete clinical history on the patient.
- At the time of booking, ensure that the following information can be provided:
  - A complete history of any medications, Coumadin in particular
  - If applicable – recent INR (international normalized ratio) result
  - Whether or not the patient has any issues with clotting
  - Exact site of the lesion that will be aspirated with all pertinent clinical information
- Recent INR result should be less than 2, performed within the last 2 weeks before FNA booking.

**Action Required:**

- Ensure that the complete clinical history of the patient is known at the time of booking.

**Inquiries and feedback may be directed to:**

- Dr. Csaba Hegedus, Consultant Pathologist for Cytology at: 403-388-6628 or email:  
[Csaba.Hegedus@albertahealthservices.ca](mailto:Csaba.Hegedus@albertahealthservices.ca)

**This bulletin has been reviewed and approved by:**

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