



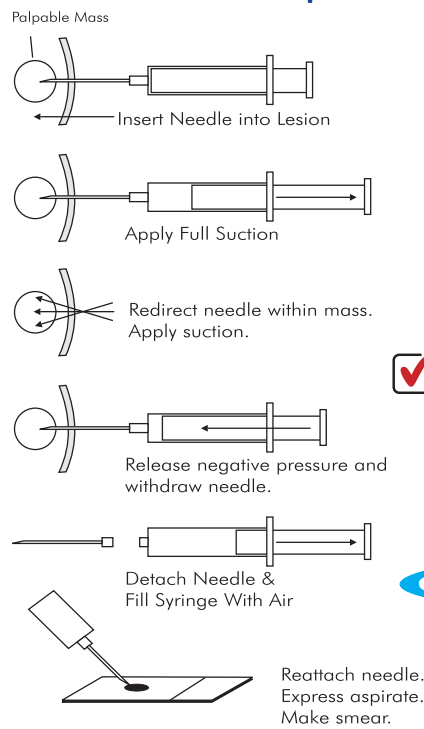
# FNAC for Superficial Palpable Lumps

An inexpensive rapid test for diagnosis of superficial palpable masses

Fine Needle Aspiration Cytology (FNAC) is a simple, quick and inexpensive method used to sample superficial suspicious masses such as palpable lymph nodes, thyroid nodules, breast, or any other lump in the body. It can rule out cancer which in many cases is a major worry which alleviates patient anxiety.

**Results:** The aspirate is examined under a microscope, and a diagnosis is made based on the type of cells that are seen. In some cases, the opinion may be inconclusive and actual diagnosis may require further testing, usually involving a surgical biopsy.

## FNAC Technique



## Benefits and Limitations:

FNAC is a rapid, effective test for determining the status of the suspect tissue. Compared to surgical biopsy, FNAC is an OPD procedure that causes minimal trauma, infection or scarring with minimal recovery time. Once the test is completed, the patient can continue normal activities. Smear prepared from the aspirate obtained through the procedure is stained, examined under a microscope, and an opinion is given.

## ✓ FNA for Confirmation of MTB-Tuberculosis:

In cases with Granulomatous lymphadenitis or purulent aspirates, Xpert MTB (CBNAAT) testing has an important role in confirming Extra Pulmonary Tuberculosis (EPTB).

**Combining FNA with Xpert MTB (CBNAAT)** has the advantage of detecting FNA missed cases, and significant numbers of cytomorphological TB NEGATIVE aspirates can be confirmed or diagnosed by Xpert MTB (CBNAAT).

