

Fine Needle Aspirations

Arrangements

No special arrangements are necessary.

Fixation

This specimen requires a special fixative, Saccomanno fluid, or cytology fixative.

Special instructions

- i.** The following materials should be in the surgical suite prior to beginning this procedure.
 - a)** Small gauge needle.
 - i)** Retain the cap of the needle.
 - b)** Syringe.
 - c)** An empty sterile specimen container.
 - i)** Label the specimen container with the patient's name and date of birth, surgeon's name, type and location of the specimen (ie: cornea, left eye).
 - d)** 10 ml of Saccomanno fixative.
 - e)** Ocular Pathology Consultation Request form.
- ii.** The specimen should be removed from the patient and retained in the syringe.
 - a)** A notation should be made on the Ocular Pathology Consultation Request form as to the amount, color and consistency of the fluid removed from the patient (ie: 0.2 cc of red-tan colored viscous fluid was removed from the (right or left) eye).
- iii.** The physician should carefully place the needle into the Saccomanno fixative and draw up an equal amount of Saccomanno fixative into the syringe. The remaining Saccomanno fixative should be discarded.
- iv.** Next the physician should:
 - a)** Carefully squirt the specimen into the sterile container and immediately place the lid on the container.
 - b)** Once the entire contents of the syringe have been dispensed into the sterile container, dispose of the syringe needle intact into a bio-hazard sharps container.
- v.** Seal the lid of the container with parafilm or paraffin wax.
- vi.** Fill out the Ocular Pathology Consultation Request form completely.
- vii.** Send the specimen and Ocular Pathology Consultation Request form via overnight mail to the address mentioned under General Information on Collection and Handling of Specimens.