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## FINE-NEEDLE ASPIRATION CYTOLOGY (FNAC)

Fine-needle aspiration cytology (FNAC) was performed on a large scale at Memorial Hospital, New York, during the 1930s, but during the ensuing years, it did not gain much encouragement in United States. The technique had a resurgence in Scandinavia during the 1950s and 1960s, where it flourished before spreading to other parts of the world. It had also a revival in the United States, which contributed enormously to this tool in each and every aspect and fine needle aspiration cytology is practised widely throughout entire world. The majority of countries have dedicated cytopathologists as well as histopathologists practicing cytology. Despite this, FNAC is performed mostly by clinicians and radiologists except in the larger centres with dedicated staff with a special interest in cytopathology. Fine-needle aspiration cytology is the reference diagnostic tool in patients with thyroid nodules. Because the true diagnosis is based on histopathologic findings, the final diagnosis of nodules not operated on is postponed, impacting the cost. Now, we can conclude that fine-needle aspiration biopsy is safe, accurate, and cost-effective. The procedure has a central role in the management of thyroid nodules and should be used as the initial diagnostic test.

Key words: Thyroid Nodular Disease, Fine-Needle Aspiration, Thyroid cancer