



**MAYO**  
Mayo Medical Laboratories  
1-800-533-1710

## **NEW TEST ANNOUNCEMENT**

**NOTIFICATION DATE:** September 4, 2012

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 14, 2012

### **CALCITONIN, FINE-NEEDLE ASPIRATION BIOPSY (FNAB)-NEEDLE WASH, LYMPH NODE** Test ID: CATLN

**USEFUL FOR:** An adjunct to cytologic examination of fine needle aspiration specimens in athyrotic individuals treated for medullary thyroid carcinoma, to confirm or exclude metastases in enlarged or ultrasonographically suspicious lymph nodes.

**METHODOLOGY:** Immunoenzymatic Assay

**REFERENCE VALUES:** An interpretive report will be provided.

**SPECIMEN REQUIREMENTS:**

**Container/Tube:** Sterile vial

**Collection Instructions:** After collection of the cytology specimens and expulsion of the material for smear or CytoTrap processing:

1. Wash/rinse each FNA needle from **a single biopsied area** with 0.1 to 0.5 mL of normal saline.
2. Pool each wash from a single biopsied area into one vial. If more than one area is biopsied, each biopsy area should be submitted as a separate specimen under a separate order. The washes from a biopsied area are pooled (final volume 1.0-1.5 mL)
3. Inspect the specimen as follows:
  - a. If the specimen shows visible blood or tissue contamination, centrifuge the specimen. Transfer the supernatant to a new plastic vial. Freeze specimen.
  - b. If specimen is clear, freeze specimen in plastic vial.
  - c. Sample should be frozen within 2-4 hours of collection.

**Specimen Volume:** 1.5 mL

After collection of the cytology samples and expulsion of the material for smear or cytotrap processing, each FNA needle from a single biopsied area is washed with 0.1 to 0.5 mL of normal saline. The washes from a biopsied area are pooled (final volume 1.0-1.5 mL) and frozen for transport to Mayo Medical Laboratories. Sample should be frozen within 4 hours of collection.

**Specimen Type:** Fine Needle Wash

**SPECIMEN STABILITY INFORMATION:**

Specimen Type	Temperature	Time
FNAB, Lymph Node	Frozen (preferred)	7 days
	Refrigerated	4 hours

**CAUTIONS:**

Blood contamination during the biopsy might lead to false elevations of calcitonin in the FNAB washout if serum calcitonin is significantly elevated. If blood was present in the washout, only calcitonin values significantly higher than the serum should be considered as true positives.

Immunometric assays can, in rare occasions, be subject to interferences such as "hooking" at very high analyte concentrations (false-low results) and heterophilic antibody interference (false-high results). If the clinical picture does not fit the laboratory result, these possibilities should be considered.

Results are dependent on accurate sampling and a maximum needle wash volume of < or =1.5 mL.

While the needle washes from several distinct needle passes or aspirations from a single area should be pooled, biopsies from different areas should be submitted as separate specimens.

**FEE:** Please contact your Regional Manager for your account's fee information.

**CPT CODE:** 82308

**DAY(S) SET UP:** Monday through Friday;      **ANALYTIC TIME:** Same day/1 day  
Varies

QUESTIONS: Contact your Mayo Medical Laboratories' Regional Manager or  
Greg Renkly, MML Laboratory Technologist Resource Coordinator  
Telephone: 800-533-1710