

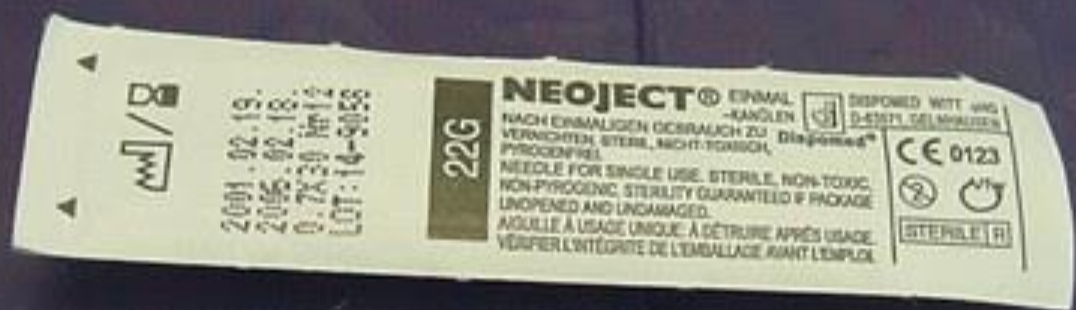
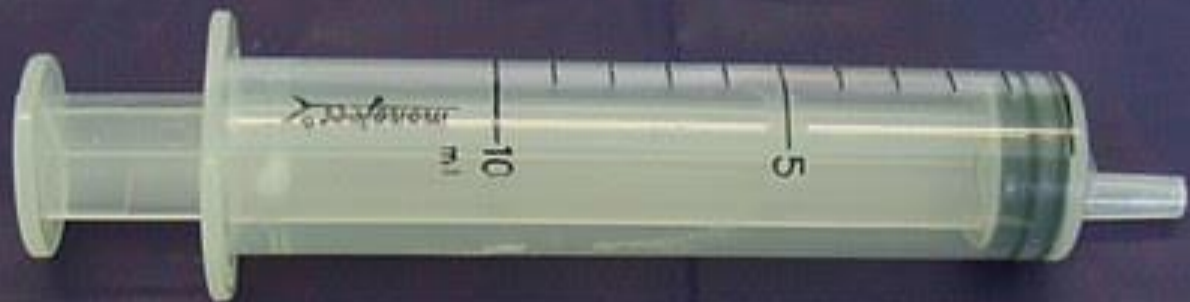
Fine-needle aspiration.

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Introduction

- FNAB (= fine-needle aspiration biopsy) or FNAC (= fine-needle aspiration cytology) can be used for diagnostic purposes in most swellings, and in various areas.
- Correctly done, this procedure will provide valuable information with minimal invasion.

FNAC is an expensive special investigation!



Technique

- Disinfect the skin. (Local anaesthetic is optional)
- Use a **22G needle (=black)** connected to a **10cc** syringe.
- Immobilize the lesion/tumor with one hand.
- Insert the needle through the skin into the lesion and apply suction.
- **Maintaining suction**, angle the needle through different directions and depths of the tumor, working quickly.

Technique continued...

- Then, loosen the suction passively.
- **Do not withdraw under suction** or all the cellular material will enter the syringe and will be lost to cytological evaluation.
- **NB:**The cellular material is in the needle !!!!
- Without aspirating air, expel the contents onto a glass slide.

Continued.....

- **Disconnect the needle** and aspirate air into the syringe.
- **Reconnect** the needle to the syringe.
- Now expel the content in the needle again.
- Repeat about 3 times in total.
- **NB:** You must work quickly because the material must not dry out.

Continued.....

- Gently place a **second slide over** the aspirated material on the glass slide and wait briefly for the material to spread by capillary action.
- Then **gently** slide the two slides apart -- do not press -- this will damage the cells.
- **Air dry the top slide** -- for Giemsa stains.
- **Immediately spray fix the bottom slide** with cytological spray fixative, at a distance of 25cm, gently and liberally.

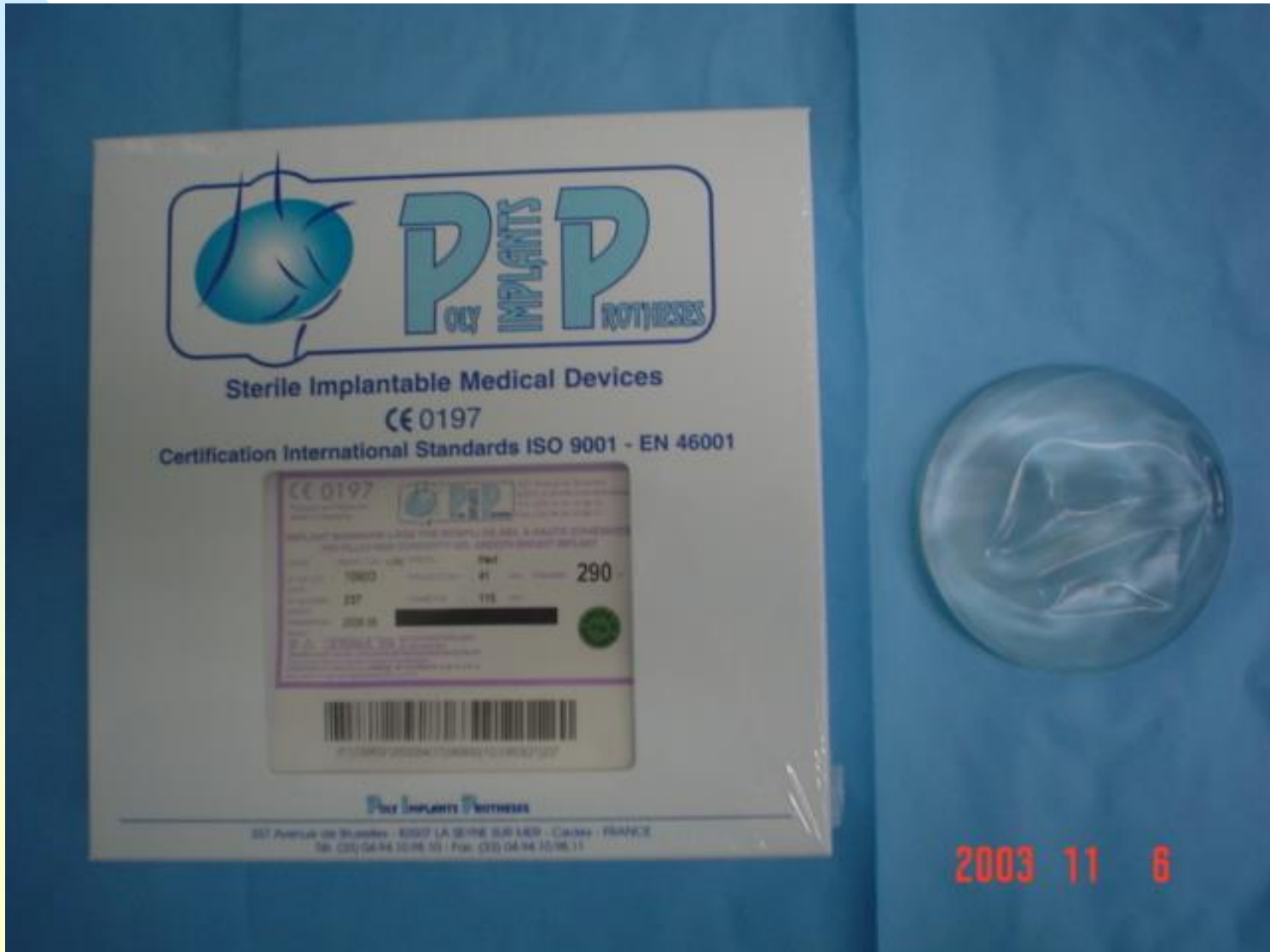
Continued.....

- **NB:** Do NOT air dry the **bottom slide** --- this is where most of the cellular material is and it is needed for routine PAP stains!
- Repeat the whole process with a new needle and syringe.
- **NB:** Perform 2-3 passes per lesion (and end up with 4-6 slides).
- Label the slides with a hospital or file number.
- Wait for the slides to dry completely.

Finally.....

- Wrap in cardboard or plastic slide trays, or in paper -- to protect it against breakage.
- Fill in a request form with relevant history.
- Send to the laboratory -- **Cytology** section for examination by a cytopathologist!

Carefull!!



Cardboard slide tray

