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Biography:

Peter Fitzgerald is a Cytopathologist and Medical Director of Southern Community Laboratories (SCL), a largest cytology unit in New Zealand. He was trained in Clinical Medicine before specializing in Anatomical Pathology and has a particular interest in the role of the clinical pathology within the health care system.

FNA cytology of the breast: Is there still a role

The current status of FNA cytology of the breast worldwide is reviewed. The situation in Australia and NZ is discussed in more detail. The reasons for why core biopsy has replaced FNA in the UK and USA are explained in this presentation. The advantages and disadvantages of both core biopsy and FNA are compared. The various settings in which a breast FNA service can best be provided are also described. The need for good sampling technique is emphasized. Basic patterns of benign and malignant FNA cytology are illustrated and then areas of difficulty are covered.

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