EUS-FNA of abdominal organs: An approach to reporting onsite and triage for ancillary testing

Endoscopic ultrasound (EUS) is superior to CT scans and MRI in detecting smaller lesions in many abdominal organs. It is recommended by NCI as a technique of choice to explore any hypoechoic mass in the Pancreas. While imaging studies are important to detect the lesion, tissue diagnosis still remains the gold standard. The success of EUS-FNA in diagnosis pancreatic lesions has changed the practice for obtaining pre-operative diagnosis. Intrinsically, the EUS-FNA specimens from the pancreas are difficult to approach and interpret. A simple morphology-based approach using 'Jhala' algorithm has been used successfully in many countries as a tool to be able to arrive at the diagnosis for which the triage of ancillary testing constitutes an integral part. During this session unknown cases will be provided and participants will be taught how to use the 'Jhala' algorithm effectively. In addition, important practical pearls including but not limited to correlation of a radiologic pictures with the clinical scenario and the morphologic appearance on EUS-FNA will also be discussed. The common and uncommon lesions will be discussed using EUS-FNA techniques. At the end of the session, the participants will be well equipped to handle the EUS FNA specimens successfully in the day to day practice.

Biography
Darshana Jhala, has worked extensively for the past twenty years as a cytopathologist in the field of EUS-FNA. During this time, she has been invited nationally and internationally to give lectures in the field of Cytopathology, especially in the areas of EUS-FNA. She has published more than 65 articles which includes some of the pioneering articles in the field of EUS-FNA. ‘Jhala’ algorithm is successfully used by cytopathologists all over the world. She is the recipient of multiple awards including the Life time achievement award by Who’s Who in America.

Nirag C. Jhala is the Director of Anatomic Pathology & Director of Cytopathology at Temple University Hospital, and Professor of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at Temple University School of Medicine. He specializes in surgical and cytopathology, including tumor and non-tumor pathologies of the gastrointestinal tract, hepatobiliary pathology and pancreatic pathology. He has contributed to landmark papers in areas of Endoscopic and endobronchial ultrasound guided fine needle aspiration. His translational research interests include understanding the underlying molecular changes associated with the development of colon cancer, esophageal cancer and pancreatic cancer. He has authored landmark papers focused on endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspirates for pancreatic cancers. He also co-authored research which provided criteria for late liver allograft dysfunction. He also has helped work with international group of experts in area of salivary gland cytology. He has more than 120 peer-reviewed publications, has been an NIH funded investigator and has served on NIH Study Section Grant Review Panel

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