SCOPE OF PRACTICE
PGY-5

• Recognize normal cytomorphology of cells derived from the respiratory, gastrointestinal, and genitourinary tracts, and body fluid (Cerebrospinal fluid, pleural and peritoneal fluid)

• Recognize normal cytomorphology of cells retrieved by fine-needle aspiration of the organs such as lymph node, thyroid, salivary glands, lung, liver, pancreas, kidney, adrenal gland, and soft tissues

• Cervical Cytology
  o Familial with the Bethesda System for reporting cervical cytology
  o Recognize common cellular components in cervical specimen
  o Recognize the features of dysplasia and invasive carcinoma of the uterine cervix
  o Recognize effects of inflammation and repair, radiation, intrauterine devices on cervical cytology
  o Recognize the cytopathic effects of genital viral infection, including Human Papillomavirus (HPV), Herpes, and Cytomegalovirus (CMV)
  o Recognize common infectious agents in the female genital tract, Lepothrix, Candida, Trichomonas, and Actinomyces
  o Recognize common artifacts that may be present in cervical Pap smear (air drying, fungi, cellular degeneration)
  o Recognize the effects of hormonal stimuli on the cervical/vaginal epithelium.
• Head & Neck Cytology
  o Recognize cytologic features of squamous cell papilloma and carcinoma of oral cavity
  o Recognize cytologic features of common salivary gland neoplasm, including pleomorphic adenoma, mucoepidermoid carcinoma, and adenoid cystic carcinoma
  o Understand cytologic diagnostic category of thyroid cytology
  o Familiar with diagnostic criteria for benign, follicular neoplasm, and malignant tumors of thyroid

• Respiratory Cytology
  o Know the cytology of pulmonary viral (herpes, CMV), and fungal (histoplasmosis, Pneumocystis Carinii blastomycosis, cryptococcosis, coccidiomycosis) infection
  o Recognize cytologic features of a granulomatous inflammation
  o Know the cytologic criteria to identify the various types of lung carcinoma
  o Familiar with immunocytochemical profile of common lung cancers, such as small cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma and adenocarcinoma
  o Familiar with molecular tests of lung cancers, such as EGFR and Kras mutations
  o Be aware of components of respiratory specimens that can be confused with malignant cells
• Renal and Urinary Tract Cytology
  o Recognize cytologic features of renal cell carcinoma and transitional cell carcinoma
  o Familiar with immunocytochemical profile of renal cell carcinoma
  o Be aware of the different constituents of voided, catheterized, and irrigated urinary bladder specimens
  o Recognize decoy cells in urine
  o Recognize BCG and other treatment related cytologic changes in urine

• Digestive System Cytology
  o Recognize cytologic features common benign and malignant neoplasm of stomach
  o Familiar with the differential diagnosis of spindle cell neoplasm (nerve sheath tumor, gastrointestinal stromal tumor, benign and malignant smooth muscle tumor) and their immunocytochemical profile
  o Recognize cytologic features of hepatocellular carcinoma and cholangiocarcinoma
  o Recognize benign and malignant neoplasms of pancreas and potential pitfalls in Endoscopic guided FNA (especially contamination with gastric and intestinal mucosa)

• Soft Tissue Cytology
  o Familiar with common features of sarcomas and their immunocytochemical profiles
Body Fluid Cytology

- Be aware of the method with which CSF is obtained (lumber puncture vs. shunt device)
- Know that significant increase of any type of cells in CSF, including inflammatory cells, may constitute an medical emergency and should report to clinician immediately
- Know the features of bacterial, viral, fungal meningitis
- Know cytologic features and immunoprofile of mesothelial cells and metastatic adenocarcinoma of different origins

Cytopreparation AND FNA Skills

- Be familiar with major preparatory techniques in the cytology laboratory: conventional smear, routine and special stains, liquid-based thin layer, cytocentrifugation, and cell blocks
- Know the cardinal rules and indication of FNA on superficial masses
- Master of FNA technique
- Be able to critically analyze a clinical situation, weighed against the quantity of the specimen, and select the most appropriate cytopreparatory method
For information regarding this scope of practice, please contact:
Jack Yang, MD, Director of Cytopathology Fellowship Training Program
(843) 792-3121, yanja@musc.edu