WHAT IS A FNA?
FNA stands for Fine Needle Aspiration and serves as a ‘mini-biopsy’. It is commonly used to test lumps or masses. If the lump is palpable or easily felt by hand it can be performed by a pathologist and is called a DIRECT FNA. If it is not palpable it requires imaging, such as ultrasound or CT, to localise the mass and the radiologist performs the FNA. This applies to all deep lesions, such as lung and abdominal masses. It is often requested as a first step in the investigation of a lump or mass.

FNAs THAT CANNOT BE PERFORMED AT PathWest:
Masses that are only seen on imaging and are not palpable require a radiologist to perform the FNA.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION PRIOR TO BOOKING A FNA:
If this lump cannot be felt by hand, either by the doctor or the patient, then a Pathologist may not be able to perform a FNA test. Special equipment using ultrasound or other methods may be required.

SPECIAL FNA SERVICES:
PathWest provides a direct FNA service at other locations for patients with special needs after discussion with a Cytopathologist.

BILLING INFORMATION:
Patients with a Medicare number will be bulk billed for the FNA test.

NOTE: If additional special tests are required, there may be out-of-pocket expenses.

LOCATIONS:
QEII MEDICAL CENTRE (SCGH & PCH site)
PathWest Patient Reception
Ground Floor, J Block
Hospital Avenue, Nedlands
Days: Monday to Friday
Times: 8.30am – 5pm

ROYAL PERTH HOSPITAL
PathWest Anatomical Pathology Reception
North Block, Level 2
Wellington Street Perth
Days: Wednesday & Friday
Times: 9am – 4.30pm

FIONA STANLEY HOSPITAL
PathWest Specimen Collection
Ground Floor, B Block
Robin Warren Drive, Murdoch
Days: Monday
Times: 9am – 4.30pm
Should you require assistance in locating PathWest Specimen Collection please call 6152 8461