

21 March 2022

Dear Colleague

APS is no longer performing free hand fine needle aspirates (FNA) for all thyroid lesions due to the high risk of false negative results.

We would advise that such cases be referred to one of the DHB thyroid clinics for further management. Alternatively the patient can be referred for a private ultrasound guided FNA with a pathologist in attendance.

Also a reminder that APS do not perform FNAs on patients under 16 years old, they should be referred to Auckland Starship Children's Hospital for assessment and management.

Kind regards

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