

Technique of Transscleral Fine Needle Aspiration Biopsy

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Advantages:

To demonstrate a technique of obtaining adequate sample material from choroidal lesions of unknown origin via a transscleral approach.

Methods:

After adequate scleral exposure is obtained and transillumination or indirect ophthalmoscopy is used to delineate the borders of the lesion, a 30-gauge needle connected to Eagle tubing is attached to a 10 cc syringe. The needle is passed through the sclera and an assistant creates a negative vacuum with the 10 cc syringe allowing adequate sample material to be gained.

Effectiveness / Safety:

This technique has been performed on over 100 posterior segment tumors. The size of the lesion is correlated to the success of obtaining adequate biopsy material. The complications of vitreous hemorrhage, subretinal hemorrhage and retinal perforation are rare and resolve without intervention.