**Original article:**

**Clinical and cytohistopathological evaluation of inflammatory skin lesions in and around Muzaffarnagar district**

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**Abstract:**

**Introduction** : Cytological examination is the initial diagnostic technique for nodular skin lesions which gives the basic preliminary information regarding the pathology of the lesion. The present study was conducted to correlate the clinical diagnosis with cytology and histopathology for the diagnosis of various nodular inflammatory lesions.

**Material and methods** : Fine needle aspiration cytology of skin lesions. Giemsa staining of cytology smears. Histopathological examination of the lesion, wherever feasible. Special stains eg. Zeihl Neelsen stain, wherever necessary.

**Results** : Out of total 70 cases of inflammatory lesions cases, FNAC was done in 56 cases. In 42 cases (75%) an accurate diagnosis was made by cytology where as in 14 cases (25%) cases discordant results were seen. Aspiration was insufficient in five cases & wrong diagnosis was made in nine cases. The overall sensitivity was 75%, specificity 96%, positive predictive value was 80% and overall efficiency was 92.30%.

**Conclusions** : It was observed that FNAC is a very simple and rapid primary procedure which can be performed even in OPD patients. Besides FNAC and histopathology, other procedures which can be used in future to improve diagnostic accuracy including phase contrast microscopy, electron microscopy, immuno-histochemistry, cytogenetic studies and flow cytometry etc. Diagnosis has to be confirmed by histopathological examination.

**Key words** : FNAC, inflammatory lesions, leprosy, histopathology etc.