



## A Comprehensive Cytology Solution: Lipomas and Beyond

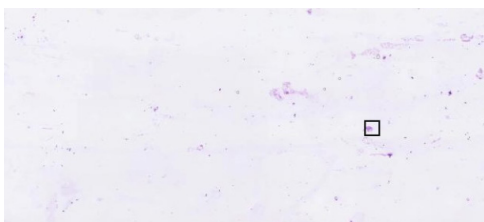
Lipomas are some of the most common benign subcutaneous lesions in our companion animal species, but the cellularity of cytologic samples may be sparse due to lipids dissolving during staining. While there is no published tried and true method to guarantee a diagnostic cytologic sample, below are some sample collection and preparation recommendations to help increase diagnostic cellularity.<sup>1</sup>

### Do

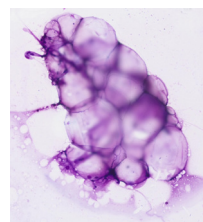
- ✓ Use a 20-22 gauge, 1-1½ needle that is safe/feasible for the patient for a more cellular harvest
  - Non-aspiration (“woodpecker” or “needle only”) technique may help reduce blood contamination
- ✓ Smear out aspirated contents evenly without added pressure between the sample slide and the spreader slide
  - Recommend saving multiple smear preparations for highest diagnostic yield\*
- ✓ Allow slides to air dry 10-15 minutes prior to staining
- ✓ Stain the slides per manufacturer’s recommendation†
- ✓ When rinsing, turn the slide facing down and run water along the back
- ✓ Add immersion oil/coverslip
- ✓ Scan slide as usual

### Don't

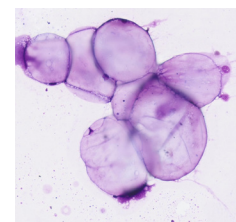
- ✗ Use a small gauge needle (>22ga) whenever possible
- ✗ Allow direct contact of the surface containing sample with water
- ✗ Exceed drying times of 15 min
  - If slide is greasy, it will never appear dry
- ✗ Heat fix the slide
- ✗ Choose a small scanning masked area unless slide appears highly cellular



Sparse Cellular Staining in Suspected Lipoma Cytology  
(box indicates report area)



Adipose tissue 10x



Adipose tissue 20x

\*Can be utilized for add on expert review to add additional slides to case, if clinically warranted.

†Some veterinarians elect to skip the fixative step to decrease likelihood of lipid dissolution, which is not recommended by manufacturer.

#### Reference:

1. Fisher KJ and Meyer DJ. Acquisition and Management of Cytologic Specimens. In: Raskin RE, Meyer DJ, and Boes KM. *Canine and Feline Cytopathology: A Color Atlas and Interpretation Guide*. 4th ed. 2023, pp. 1-14. Elsevier, St. Louis, MO.

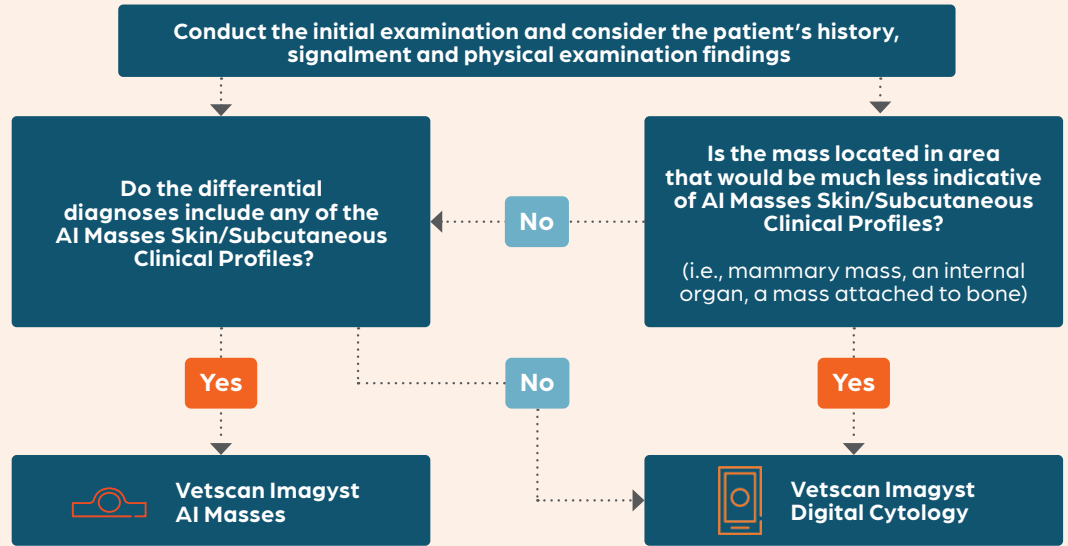


Choosing the right cytology test starts with understanding your patient’s clinical presentation. Whether you’re looking at a routine skin/subcutaneous mass, or a more complex case with atypical masses/unclear findings, we’ll help you choose the correct testing pathway to ensure efficient, actionable results.

## Skin/Subcutaneous Masses

### AI Masses Clinical Profiles

- ✓ Histiocytoma
- ✓ Mast Cell Tumor
- ✓ Plasma Cell Tumor
- ✓ Lipoma
- ✓ Keratin Containing Lesion
- ✓ Inflammation



## Supported by the Zoetis Virtual Laboratory

If your AI Masses results fall outside established clinical profiles or you need additional guidance, Add-On Expert Review<sup>1</sup> is always recommended and specialist consultations are just a click away.



For more information about Vetscan Imagyst AI Masses & Digital Cytology, download the AI Masses & Digital Cytology Hospital Resource Guide.

<sup>1</sup>Option to send digital slide image to our network of clinical pathologists as needed. Additional costs may apply.