

Online Appendix 1

BTS Guideline for the investigation and management of pulmonary nodules

PICO questions

1. Are there important differences in nodule characteristics according to the route of presentation and clinical context?
2. What clinical and radiological factors contribute to initial risk assessment for malignancy?
3. In what situations is CT surveillance appropriate and how should this happen and be assessed?
4. What are the features of sub-solid nodules and how should these nodules be managed?
5. What other imaging tests are useful in nodule evaluation and when should they be used?
6. What non-surgical biopsy/non-imaging tests are useful in nodule evaluation, when should they be used and what are the harms?
7. When should patients undergo excision biopsy and proceed to resection?
8. What is the optimal surgical management for nodules confirmed to represent lung cancer (either pre-operatively or at intra-operative frozen section pathological analysis)?
9. How do localisation techniques for pulmonary nodules compare?
10. Are there specific recommendations for surgical management of pure ground glass nodules (pGGN)?
11. When should patients undergo non-surgical treatment without pathological confirmation of malignancy, what treatment modalities are appropriate and what are the harms?
12. What are the information and support needs of patients with pulmonary nodules?
13. What are the technical imaging considerations relating to nodule detection and assessment by CXR, CT and PET-CT?

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