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Radioguided lung cancer surgery

Sunday 6 September 2009 12:00 (30 minutes)

Radioguided techniques to enhance the effectiveness of various thoracic procedures are being reported with increasing frequency in the literature. This includes the localization of pulmonary nodules for thoracoscopic resection, sentinel lymph node mapping, and attempts to identify all lymphatic micrometastatic disease in lung cancer patients.

The radiotracers that have been used clinically include In111-pentetreotide, F18-fluorodeoxyglucose (FDG), or Tc99m bound to sulfur colloid, tin colloid, human serum albumin or macroaggregated albumin. A clinical trial using an intra-operative hand held gamma probe following intravenous F18-FDG injection will be described. These techniques have great potential to improve the accuracy of lung cancer staging. This can result in improved outcomes, especially in the current era of adjuvant chemotherapy and targeted therapy.

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