Thoracic Surgical Referral Guidelines



GROUP ONE: SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR RADICAL SURGERY Tumour with normal hilar and mediastinum on staging CT with no distant metastases

Including: solid pulmonary nodules ≥5mm diameter and BROCK risk ≥10% or persistent sub-solid nodules for ≥3months or solid component ≥5mm or progressive GGO/MDO **Excluding:** pure ground glass nodules, or stable sub-solid nodules with solid component ≤5mm.

Diagnostic Tests

- PET-CT
- Consider CT Guided Bx
- or EBUS bronchoscopy/brushings

Factors favouring EBUS:

Presence of a bronchus sign ± central position ± high risk of pneumothorax from percutaneous approach e.g. severe emphysema.

Mandatory data set for MDT discussion:

- PET-CT results
- Performance status, FEV₁ and DLco
- Clinical History

Physiological Tests (Request Simultaneously)

- Spirometry and diffusion capacity
- ECG
- Creatinine clearance/ eGFR

Request echocardiogram if:

- Age ≥65
- Heart murmur
- Abnormal ECG
- Known ischaemic heart disease/ valvular disease
- Diabetes mellitus

Notes and Guidance

Peripheral tumour = positioned In the outer 2/3 of the thorax based on axial CT images If biopsy is considered high risk , or probability of malignancy is borderline it maybe appropriate to wait PET results. If any positive hilar/ mediastinal nodes on PET request staging EBUS





Request CPET if:

- Ischaemic Heart Disease
- TLCO < 60%
- Disproportionate breathlessness
- Interstitial Lung Disease



GROUP TWO: SHOULD BE CONSIDERED FOR RADICAL SURGERY N1 lymphadenopathy with normal mediastinum on staging CT with no distant metastases.

PET-CT has a 15% false positive rate and 25% false negative rate for N2/3 disease in this category, therefore EBUS is required regardless of PET findings. Prevalence of N2/3 disease in this category is 20-25%

Diagnostic Tests

- PET-CT
- Bronchoscopy and staging EBUS
- Contrast enhanced CT/MRI brain

Staging EBUS definition:

Systematic examination of all N3, N2 followed by N1 nodes and sampling of any node \geq 5mm, targeting a minimum of 3 lymph node stations.

Mandatory data set for MDT discussion:

- PET-CT results, EBUS pathology results
- Performance status, FEV₁ and DLCO, post-operative predicted FEV₁ and DLCO

Physiological Tests (Request Simultaneously)

- Spirometry and diffusing capacity
- ECG
- Creatinine clearance/ eGFR

Request echocardiogram if:

- Age ≥65
- Heart murmur
- Abnormal ECG
- Known ischaemic heart disease/ valvular disease
- Possibility of pneumonectomy
- DM

Notes and Guidance

Central tumour= positioned in the inner 1/3 of the thorax based on axial CT image If staging EBUS is negative (including N1 nodes) and no pathology from bronchoscopy then consider CT-guided biopsy



Request CPET if:

- Ischaemic Heart Disease
- TLCO < 60%
- Disproportionate Breathlessness
- Interstitial Lung Disease



GROUP THREE: MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR RADICAL SURGERY Primary tumour and discrete mediastinal lymphadenopathy on staging CT with no distant metastases.

PET-CT has a 15% false positive rate and 25% false negative rate for N2/3 disease in this category, therefore EBUS is required regardless of PET findings. Prevalence of N2/3 disease in this category is 60%

Diagnostic Tests (Request Simultaneously)

- PET-CT
- Staging EBUS
- Contrast enhanced CT/MRI brain

Staging EBUS definition:

Systematic examination of all N3, N2 followed by N1 nodes and sampling of any node ≥5mm, targeting a minimum of 3 lymph node stations.

Mandatory data set for MDT discussion:

- PET-CT results, EBUS pathology results, brain Imaging results
- Performance status, FEV₁ and DLCO, post-operative predicted FEV₁ and DLCO, renal function

Physiological Tests (Request Simultaneously)

- Spirometry and diffusing capacity
- ECG
- Creatinine clearance/ eGFR

Request echocardiogram if:

- Age ≥65
- Heart murmur
- Abnormal ECG
- Known ischaemic heart disease/ valvular disease
- Possibility of pneumonectomy

Notes and Guidance

Discrete mediastinal lymphadenopathy has well defined borders allowing easy measurements and is not conglomerate with other lymph node stations. It is non-bulky (≤3cm).

If staging EBUS is negative consider cervical mediastinoscopy.



Request CPET if:

- Ischaemic Heart Disease
- TLCO <60
- Disproportionate Breathlessness
- Interstitial lung Disease

Discuss at High Risk MDT

Thoracic Surgical Referral Guidelines v1.0 October 2018



GROUP FOUR: NOT CONSIDERED FOR RADICAL SURGERY

Conglomerate and invasive nodal malignancy on staging CT with <u>no</u> distant metastases.

Radiology is considered diagnostic for malignancy and pathological confirmation only required prevalence of N2/3 disease is in the category is 100%.

Diagnostic Tests (Request Simultaneously)

- PET-CT
- Diagnostic EBUS
- Contrast enhanced brain imaging (CT or MR)

Diagnostic EBUS definition:

Targeted sampling of nodal disease for pathological confirmation, tumour sub-typing and molecular pathology.

Mandatory data set for MDT discussion:

- PET-CT results, EBUS pathology results, brain imaging results
- Performance status, FEV₁ and DLCO, renal function
- Physiology Tests (Request Simultaneously)
- Spirometry and diffusing capacity
- Creatinine clearance/ eGFR

Notes and Guidance

Invasive mediastinal lymphadenopathy has poor defined boarders and cannot be easily measured. It forms conglomerate disease with other nodal stations.

Not a surgical candidate unless palliative intervention required.



May still be a candidate for radical radiotherapy. Refer to Oncology locally .

Thoracic Surgical Referral Guidelines



GROUP FIVE:

Metastatic disease on staging CT.

Follow this algorithm in cases where there is clear evidence of stage 4 on CT. In cases of uncertain findings there may need to additional clarification test e.g. liver USS/MR, triple phase adrenal wash out CT or PET-CT.

Diagnostic Tests

Choose most appropriate sampling technique to yield adequate pathology for tumour sub-typing and targeted therapy assessment: Consider

EBUS SCF lymph node FNA Liver or other site biopsy. **Pleural aspiration ± Medical thoracoscopy** if sympathetic pleural effusion.

Ensure non- MDT clinicians performing biopsies are informed about tissue requirements for targeted therapy.



Mandatory data set for MDT discussion:

- Pathology results
- CT results
- Performance status

Oligometastatic Disease is the presence of ≤ 3 mets in ≤ 2 sites.

These patients may be suitable for radical treatment, ideally within a clinical trial.

Careful discussion at MDT is required.