Chapter	3. Diagnostic tools for ARDs
Section	F. Pathology of Mesothelioma
No./Title	**Pathology of Mesothelioma**
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Introduction

Asian context
Critical appraisal
Unique keywords

Abstract

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Mesothelioma is a peculiar type of malignancy, which is highly related to asbestos-exposure, because 80 to 90% of the patients with mesothelioma have a history of occupational and/or environmental exposure to asbestos. Also, it is known that mesothelioma is a highly aggressive malignancy, and average survival of the patients has been reported to be only 13 months1). Effective treatments including chemotherapy and radiotherapy have not been established so far, therefore, we have to diagnose it at the earlier stage when the radical surgery including pleuro-pneumonectomy can be performed.

The incidence of mesothelioma is lower rather than those of lung cancer2), so the clinicians as well as pathologists have fewer experience of diagnosis, especially at the earlier stage. When a small amount of pleurisy or ascites is found clinically with no significant thickening of pleura or peritoneum by the imagings, the diagnosis of mesothelioma is very difficult. Even if the biopsy specimen consisted of a small piece of tissue can be taken, its pathological diagnosis has so many difficulties, therefore, the comprehensive judgement including clinical examination, X-P or CT imaging as well as pathological findings can be led to an accurate diagnosis of mesothelioma3).

So in this article, the pathology of mesothelioma is presented on the basis of knowledge presented in the articles previously published. The aim is to achieve a good understanding on mesothelioma for many pathologists and clinicians.

Annotation

Fact 1	● Annotation is not provided for this factsheet.
Fact 2	●
Fact 3	●
Fact 4	●
Fact 5	●

References