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Malignant mesothelioma and differential diagnosis with reactive mesothelial proliferation

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M Malignant mesothelioma (MM) is a rare, aggressive cancer that typically develops in the lining of the lungs, abdomen, or heart. It is most commonly associated with exposure to asbestos. The median age at diagnosis is approximately 72 years, with a range from 40 to 85 years. Being a tumor of serous membranes, it most commonly involves the pleura, with a minority of cases manifesting as peritoneal mesothelioma. Despite recent advances in multimodal treatment, the prognosis for MM is generally poor, with a median survival time of approximately 12 months. However, depending on the histologic variant, some patients do not have pleural effusion and present with symptoms such as shortness of breath and chest pain. The differential diagnosis of MM includes reactive mesothelial proliferation, which can be a challenging task. The key to distinguishing between MM and reactive mesothelial proliferation lies in the histologic features, including the presence of atypical cells, mitotic activity, and the extent of the proliferative process. And, despite all recent advances in the diagnosis of MM, differential diagnosis between MM and

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