Needle tract implantation clearly visualized by computed tomography following needle biopsy of malignant mesothelioma

Kazuya Suzuki*, Kazuya Takamochi, Kazuhito Funai, Teruhisa Kazui

First Department of Surgery, Hamamatsu University School of Medicine, 1-20-1 Handayama Hamamatsu 431-3192, Japan

Received 17 February 2006; accepted 7 March 2006; Available online 3 May 2006

Keywords: Needle tract implantation; Needle biopsy; Malignant mesothelioma

CT scans of a 51-year-old man during and after needle biopsy for local recurrence following extra-pleural pneumonectomy for malignant mesothelioma, clearly revealed tumor growth along the needle tract (Fig. 1A and B). Needle tract implantation (Fig. 2A and B) visualized clearly by CT imaging as in the present case is extremely rare.

Fig. 1. CT scan during needle biopsy of local recurrence (A, long arrow) following extra-pleural pneumonectomy, and CT scan 45 days later demonstrating the tumor invasion along the needle tract (B, short arrows).

Fig. 2. Histological sections showing tumor growth along the needle tract (A, arrows) and pathological features of malignant mesothelioma. (B) Stain: hematoxylin and eosin.

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +81 53 435 2276; fax: +81 53 435 2272. E-mail address: kazuya36@hama-med.ac.jp (K. Suzuki).