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Title: The bedside autofluorescence pleuroscopy for the undiagnosed lung cancer with pleural effusion in a intensive care unit

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Body: Introduction: Autofluorescence bronchoscopy was developed to enhance the detection of lung cancer in the airway. However, its role in evaluation of pleural space has not been published. Aim: To assess the undiagnosed lung cancer with pleural effusion in a intensive care unit(ICU). Methods: A flexible bronchoscope(SAFE 3000,Pentax,Tokyo) to entry to assess the pleural space. The evaluation of pleural space was started by Twin Mode and then completed by MIX. Then the specimens send for histological examination and the clinical data retrospectively studied. The whole procedures were done in the ICU bedsides. Results: 22 patients were recruited. There were 6 patients with cytology negative and normal finding in WLP or AFP but 2 of them were found to have lung cancer. Among the 16 patients with atypia or suspicious cells had abnormal finding in the WLP or AFP, 15 patients finally had lung cancer. Conclusion: The AFP is useful for detecting the undiagnosed lung cancer with pleural effusion. This is a daily practice performed not only in endoscopic room but in the ICU bedsides.