Answer: Diagnostic tissue biopsy

MCQ Explanation:

The differential diagnosis of pleural-based masses includes lymphoma, sarcoma, sarcomatous mesothelioma, pleural metastasis, splenosis, and solitary fibrous tumor of the pleura (SFT) (1). SFT represent a range of fibroblastic mesenchymal neoplasms that generally arise from serosal tissue and are thought to represent less than two percent of all soft tissue tumors (2). While no pathognomonic imaging findings exist for SFT, the diagnosis is often considered based on the finding of a well-circumscribed soft tissue mass such as the one presented in this case. For masses resembling SFT that are not clearly pleural or parenchymal-based, the differential diagnosis includes mediastinal masses such as thymic epithelial neoplasm, pericardial mesothelioma, sarcoma, neurogenic tumor and lymphoma (1). This case highlights the differential diagnosis of large chest masses that arise outside of the lung parenchyma and illustrates the importance of obtaining a tissue diagnosis to guide therapy.

References:


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