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Recent advances in diagnosis of pancreatic cystic lesions

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Recent advances in imaging technology have resulted in an increase in incidental discoveries of pancreatic cystic lesions. Pancreatic cysts comprise a wide variety of lesions and include non-neoplastic cysts and neoplastic cysts. Because some pancreatic cysts have more of a malignant potential than others, it is absolutely essential that an accurate diagnosis is rendered so that effective care can be given to each patient. In many centers, EUS-guided FNA has emerged as the modality of choice that enables one to distinguish between mucinous and non-mucinous lesion. Multiple methods including pancreatic enzyme levels, genetic analysis, and other tumor biomarkers are used to study cyst fluid for further diagnostic studies.

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