

Appendix

Diagnosis of Effusion from first pleural aspiration	Number of patients (% total)
Benign Asbestos Pleural Effusion	17 (1.7%)
Post cardiac surgery	12 (1.2%)
Congestive Cardiac Failure	102 (10.2%)
Combined causes	22 (2.2%)
Complicated pleural infection	112 (11.2%)
Critical Illness Related	63 (6.3%)
Connective Tissue Disease Related	12 (1.2%)
Hepatic Hydrothorax	19 (1.9%)
Malignant Pleural Effusion	325 (32.6%)
Non-specific Pleuritis	50 (5.0%)
Other diagnoses (PE, trauma, chylothorax)	38 (3.8%)
Parapneumonic Effusion	84 (8.4%)
Non cardiac fluid overload	7 (0.7%)
Tuberculosis	8 (0.8%)
Undiagnosed	127 (12.7%)