



PANCREATIC CYSTIC NEOPLASMS

There are two types of pancreatic cysts: inflammatory and neoplastic. Inflammatory cysts are related to prior pancreatitis. Neoplastic cysts are epithelial lined. These can be biologically benign (not cancer), malignant (cancer) or benign with potential for future progression to cancer.

TYPES OF NEOPLASTIC CYSTS

SEROUS CYSTS

These cysts are benign. The consistency of the cyst fluid is thin and watery.

MUCINOUS CYSTS

There are two type of mucinous cysts: Intrapapillary Mucinous Neoplasm (IPMN) and Mucinous cystadenoma. The cyst fluid consistency is thick and viscous. These cysts have the potential to be malignant.

OTHER

Other types of cysts consist of Solid Pseudopapillary neoplasms (SPEN) and cystic pancreatic neuroendocrine tumor (pNET). SPEN are a non-aggressive malignant lesion, they are a rare tumor primarily seen in young women. They have a mixed solid and cystic component. A pNET is a malignant tumor of varying biologic behavior.

REFERENCES

Pancreatology 2017; 17: 738-753
J Am Coll Surg 2022; 234: 1021-1030



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