

3.17 An SpR focused pictorial review to improve detection of primary lung malignancy on conventional radiography - lessons learned in a regional lung cancer centre.

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Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer related deaths worldwide and earlier diagnosis of the disease improves prognosis. While X-ray will never replace CT in detection of lung cancer, conventional radiography, and the chest x-ray in particular, is often the primary imaging modality that detects or suggests a neoplasm. Here we present a pictorial review of lung masses on plain film, based on our experiences as a regional lung cancer centre. We will discuss the review and check areas on chest x-ray and the use of inversion windowing to highlight areas such as posterior to the heart or diaphragm domes. We will show examples of lung masses picked up on non-dedicated studies, including thoracic spine and shoulder radiographs, and stress the importance of reviewing all areas on an x-ray, regardless of the clinical question. We will place particular emphasis on comparison with prior radiographs and on repeating poor quality x-rays. Our goal is to provide a review to improve detection rates of lung cancer on conventional radiographs, with a focus on teaching for both respiratory and radiology Specialist Registrars.

Conflict of Interest: None to declare