Asbestos related diseases: An imaging review

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Learning objectives

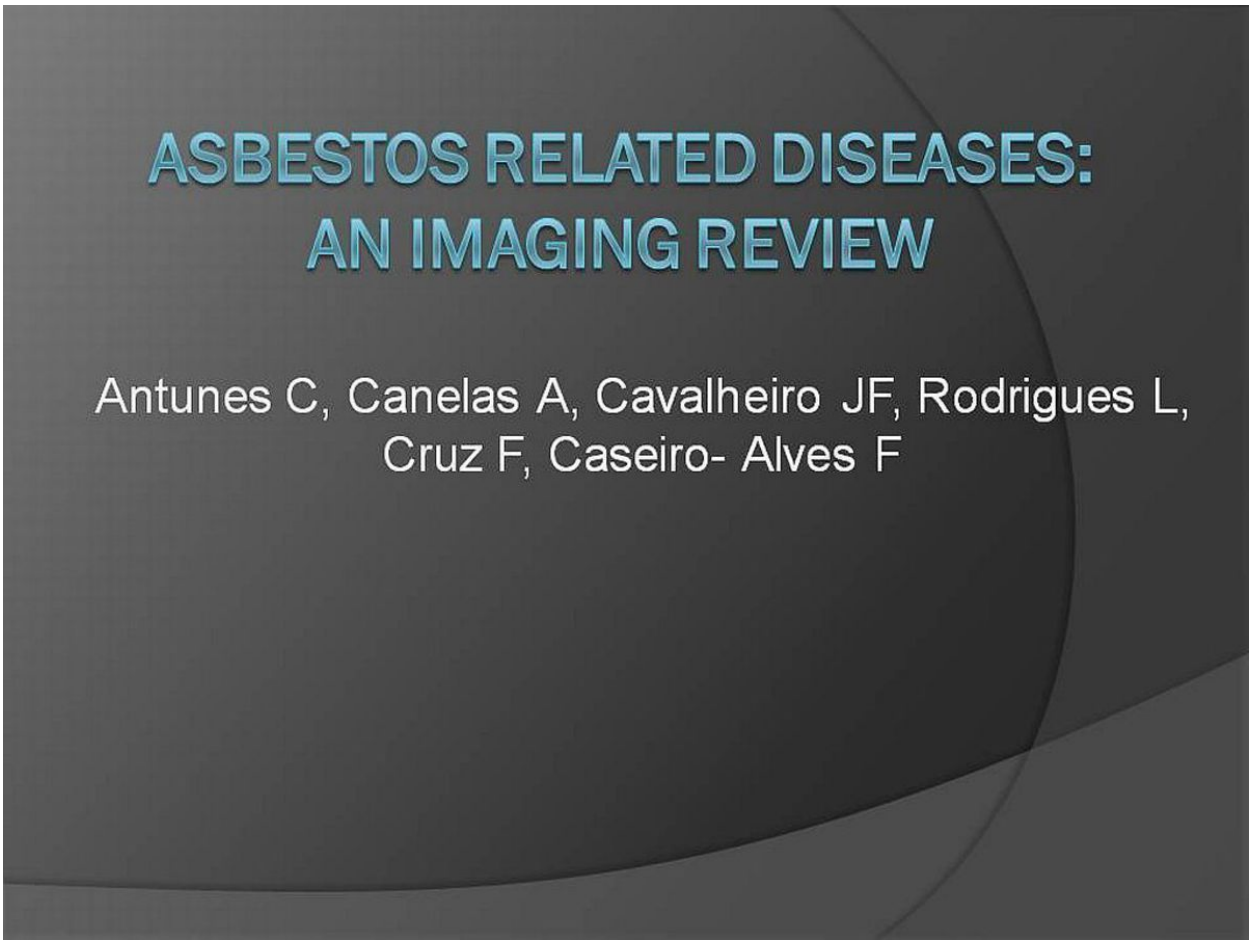
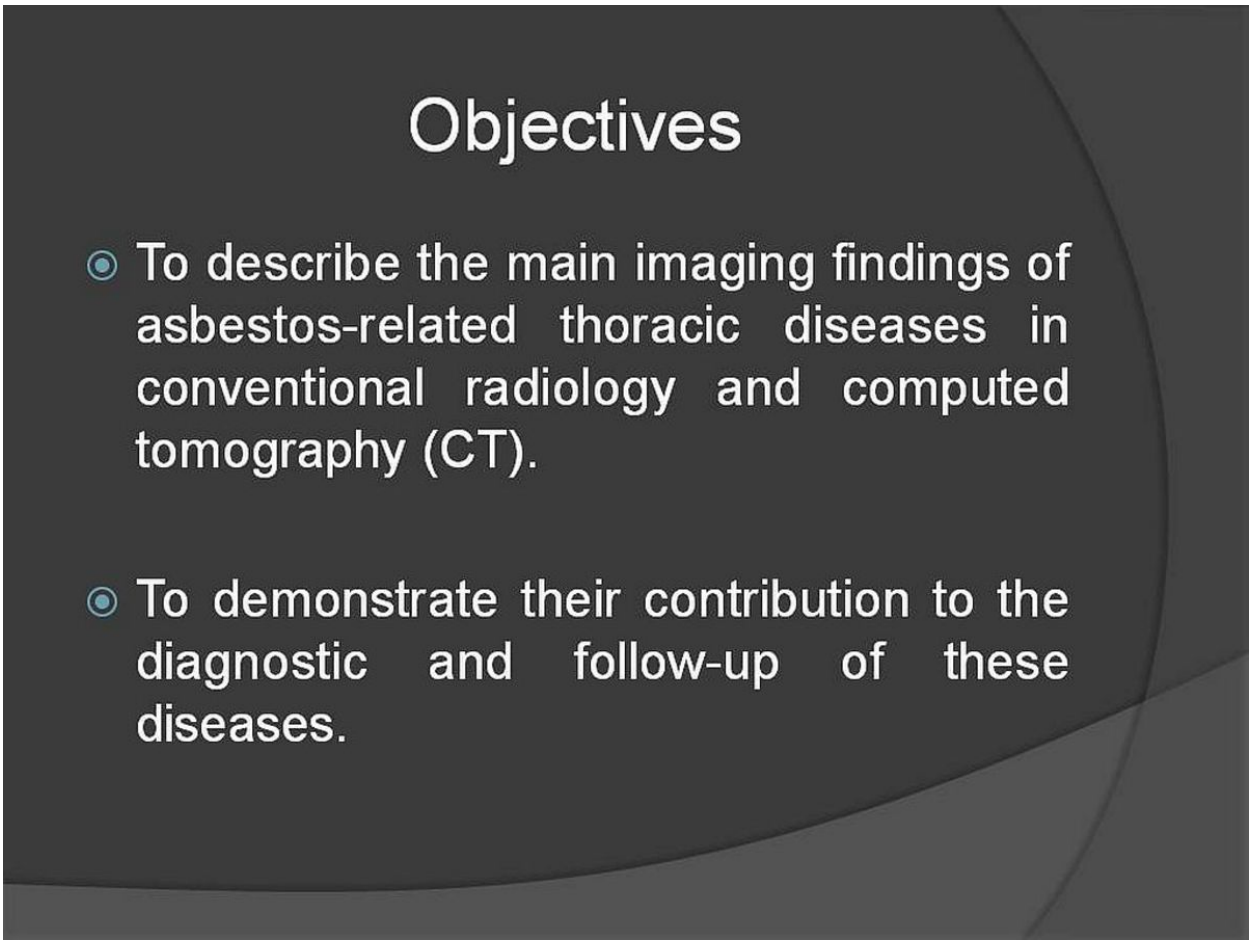


Fig.
References: C. Antunes; University Clinic of Radiology, Coimbra's University Hospitals, Coimbra, PORTUGAL



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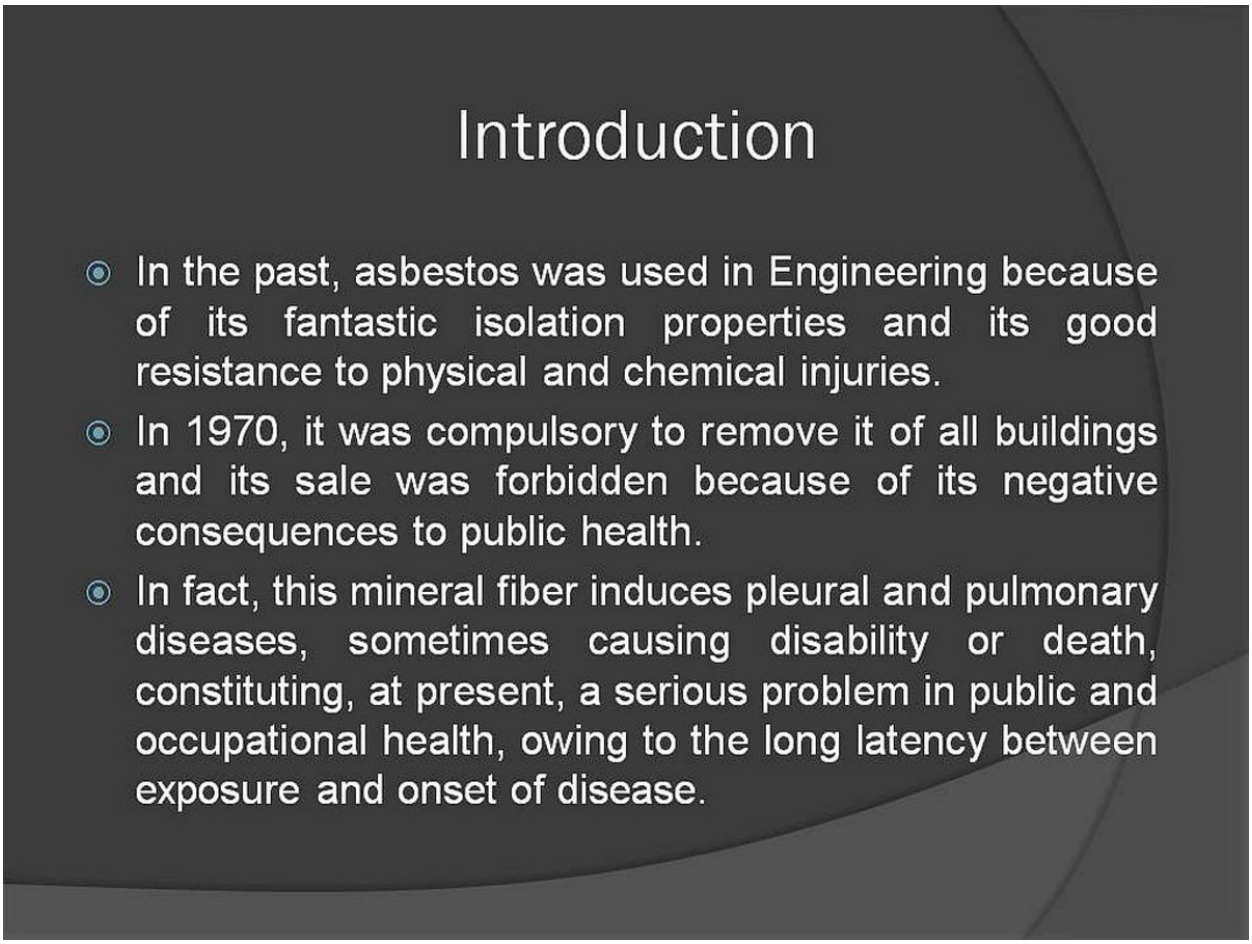
Background



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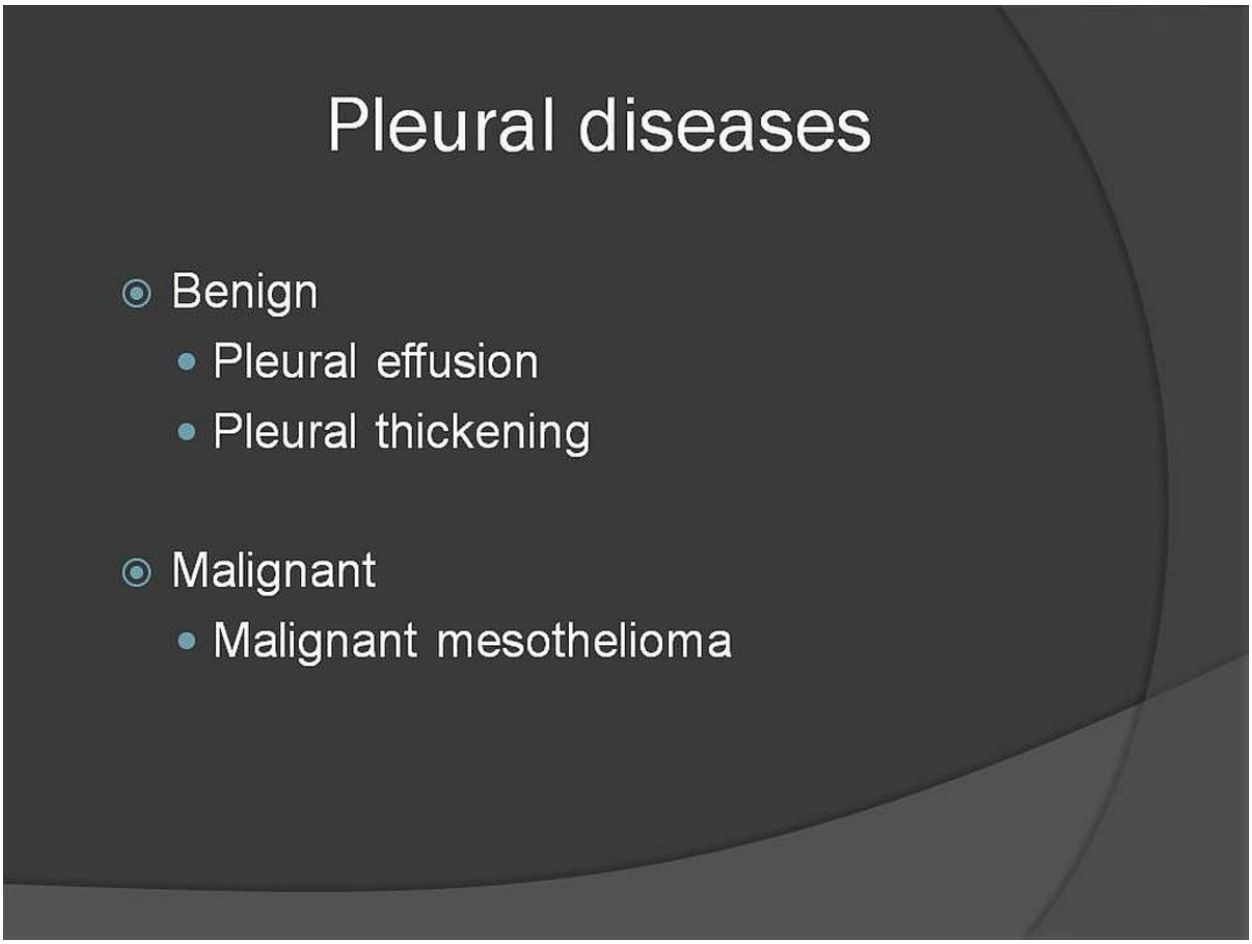
Imaging findings OR Procedure details



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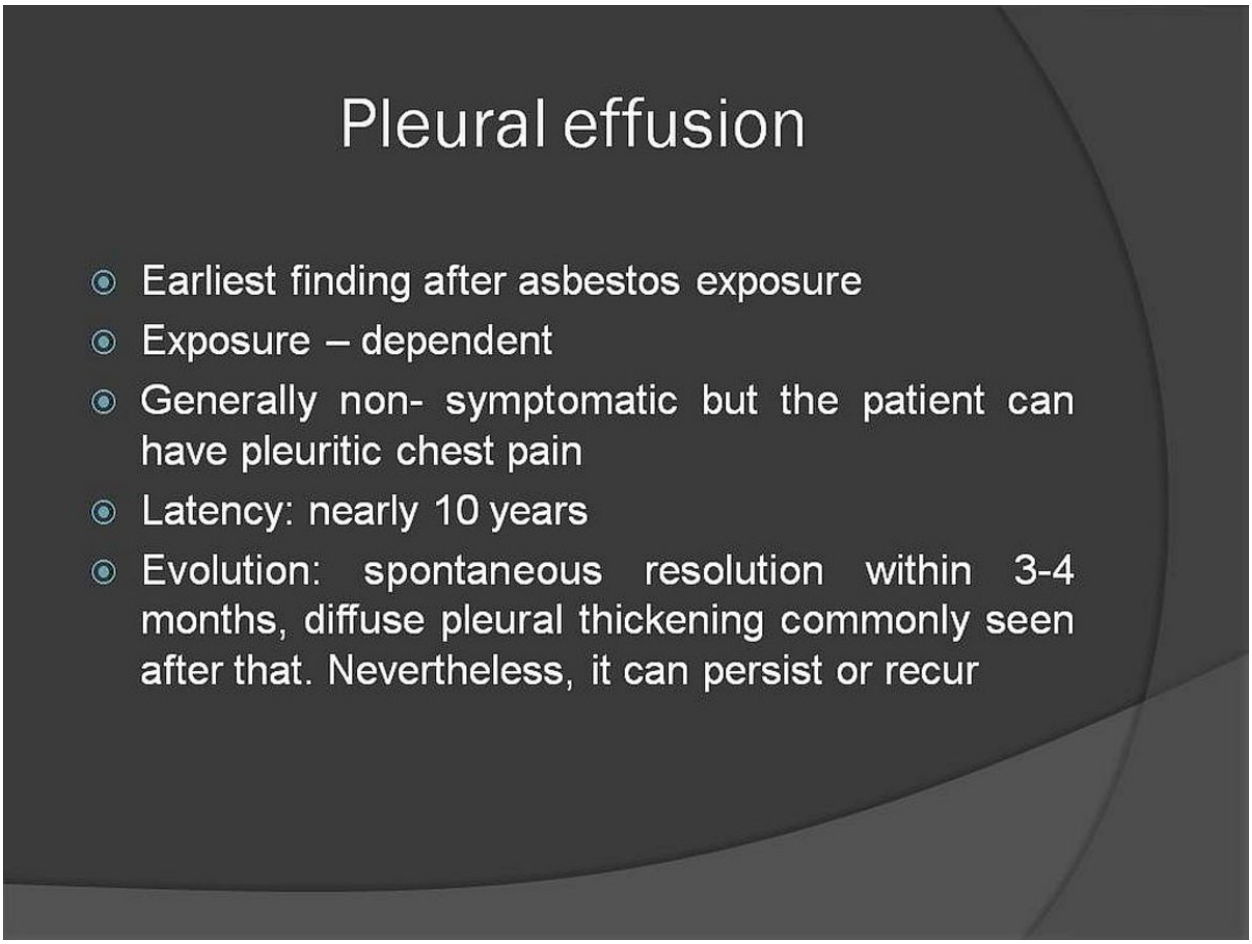

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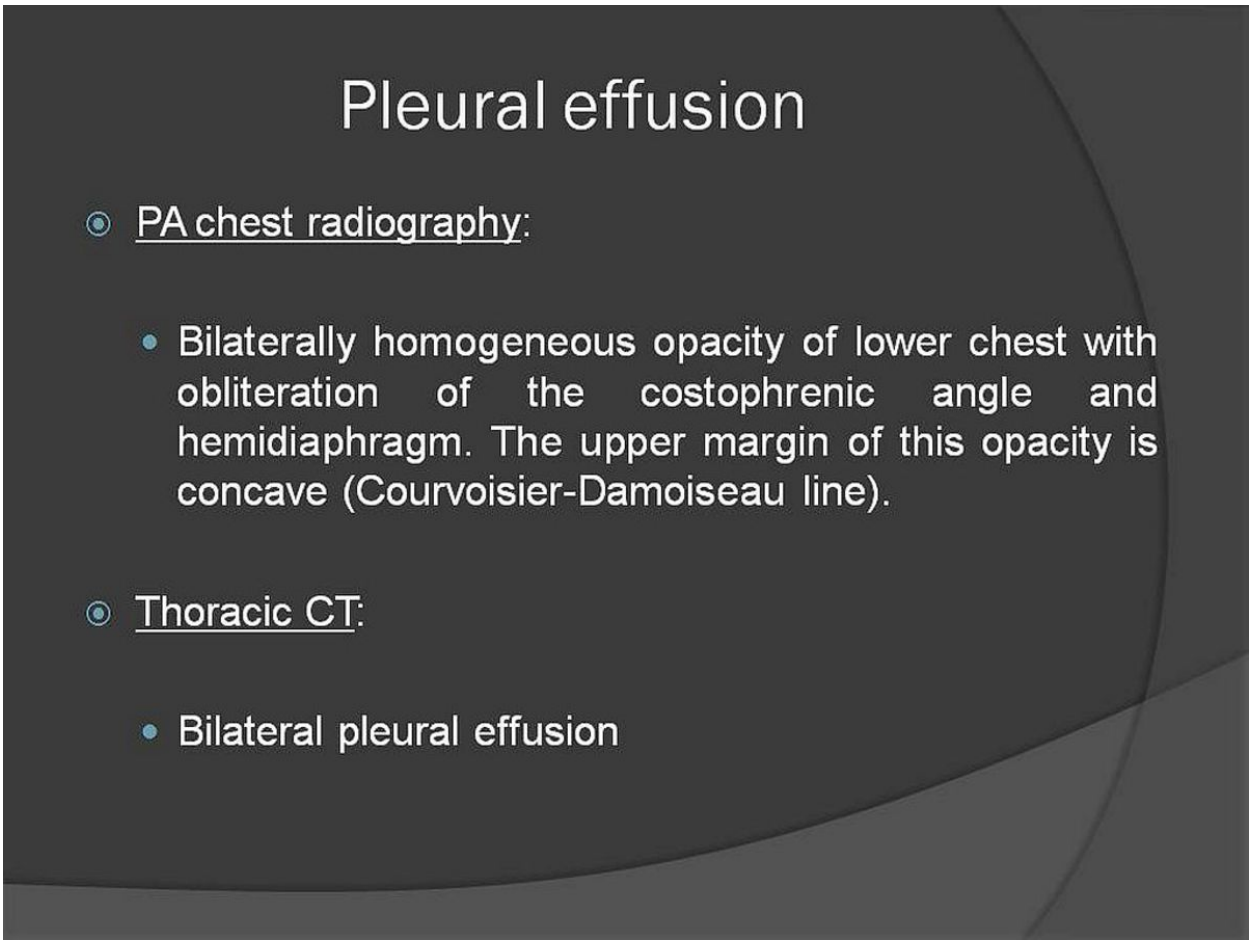

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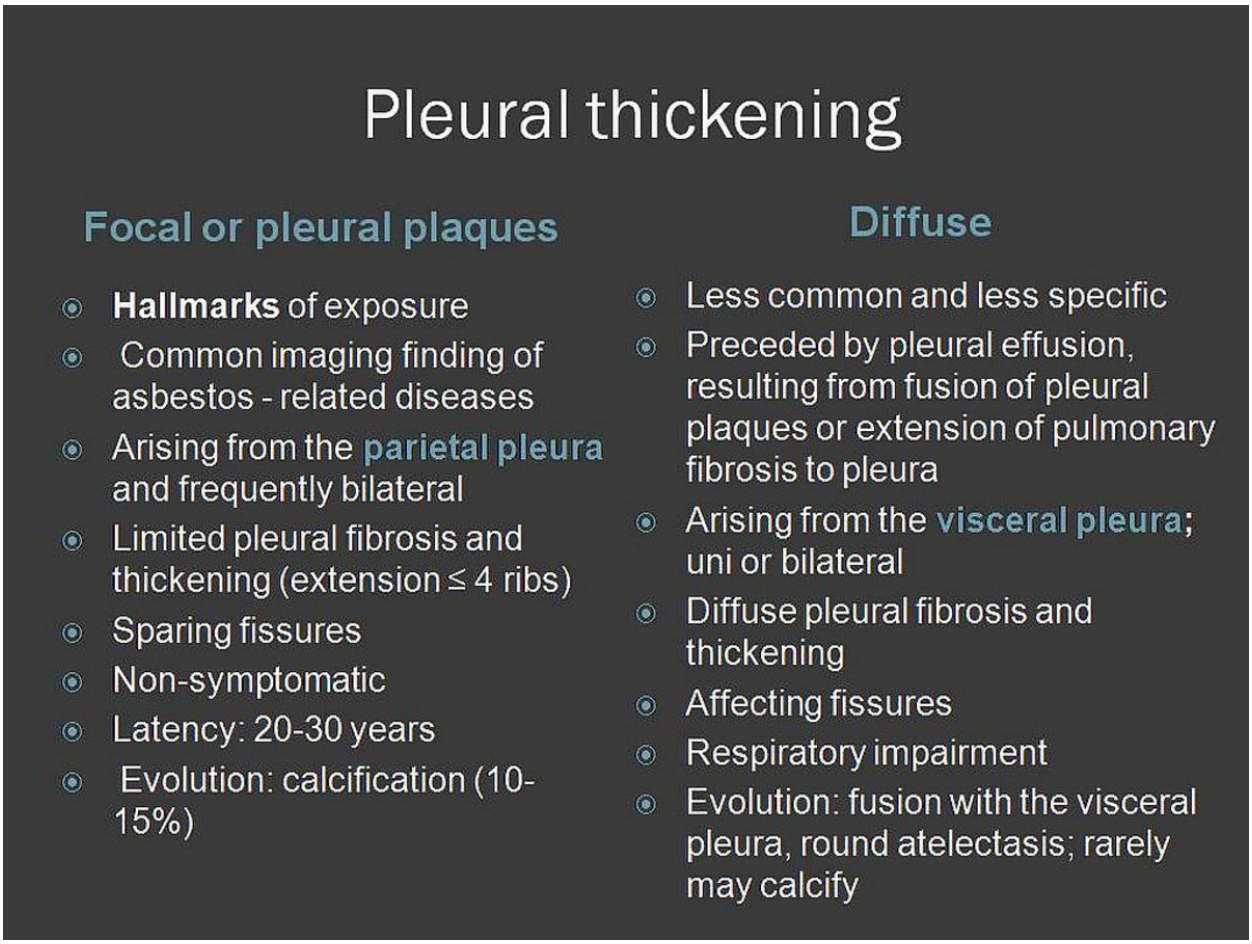

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Pleural thickening

PA chest radiography

Focal or pleural plaques

- Focal pleural thickening
- Typical distribution in parietal pleura:
  - Chest wall:
    - posterolateral (7th to 10th ribs)
    - lateral (6th to 9th ribs)
  - Diaphragmatic (dome)
  - Mediastinal
- Usually sparing apical pleural and costophrenic angles

Man, 68 years old, with history of occupational exposure to asbestos. This AP chest radiogram shows multiple bilateral plaques, with calcific density, projected to upper and middle pulmonary fields and affecting also left diaphragmatic pleura.

Fig.
References: C. Antunes; University Clinic of Radiology, Coimbra's University Hospitals, Coimbra, PORTUGAL

Diffuse

- Continuous pleural thickening with:
  - Extension ≥ ½ or ¼ of the total chest wall, if uni or bilateral, respectively
  - Thickness ≥ 5 mm
  - Possible obliteration of costophrenic angles

Man, 61 years old, with history of occupational exposure to asbestos.

This PA chest radiogram shows bilateral diffuse pleural thickening, with calcific density, affecting lateral chest pleura bilaterally and left diaphragmatic pleura, with obliteration of left costophrenic angle.

Fig.

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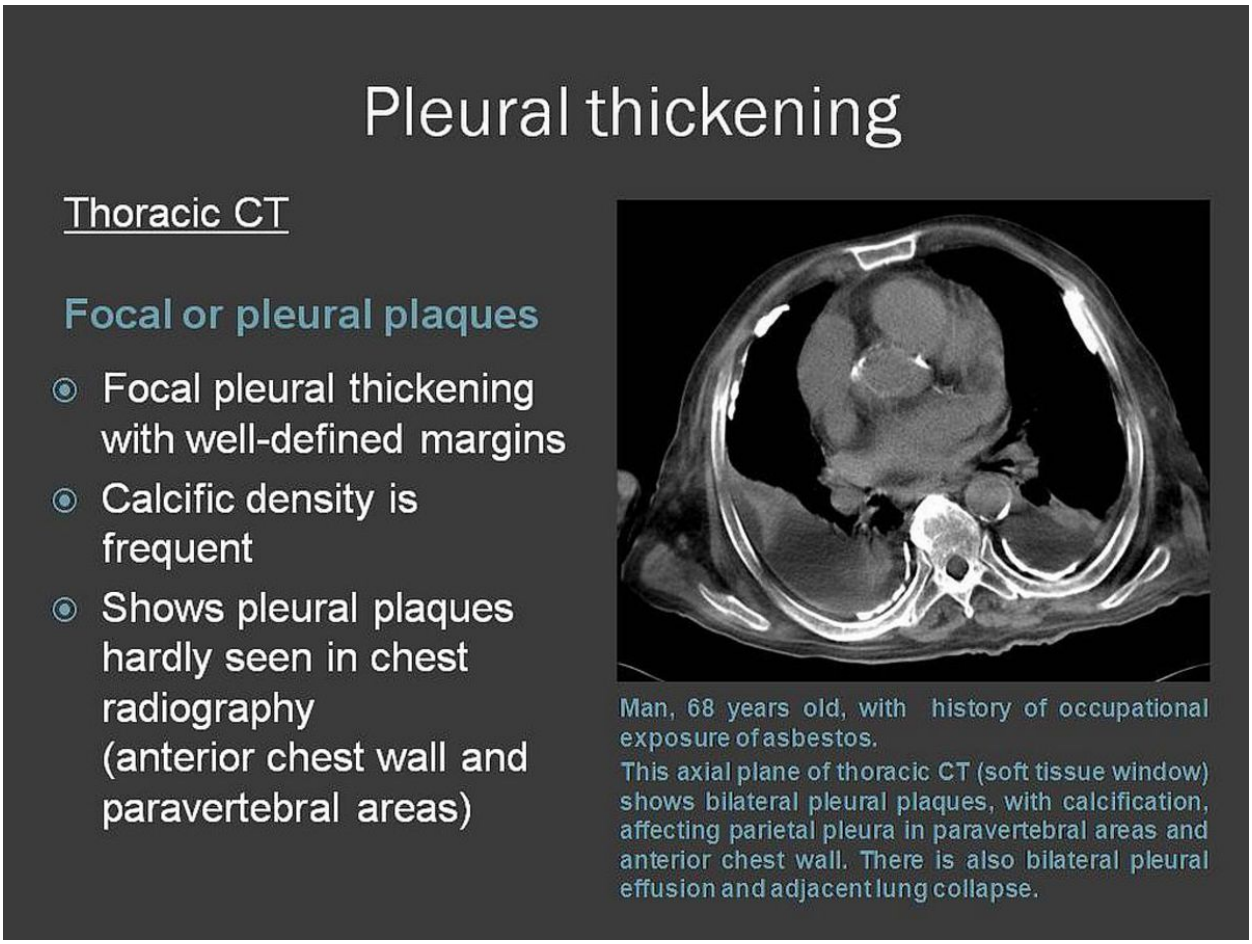

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Diffuse

- Continuous pleural thickening with:
  - ≥ 8 cm in craniocaudal extension
  - ≥5cm in wideness
  - ≥3mm in thickness

Man, 73 years old, with history of exposure to asbestos.

This axial plane of thoracic CT (soft tissue window) shows bilateral diffuse pleural thickening, with calcification, affecting anterolateral chest pleura bilaterally. The remaining images (not shown) disclosed involvement of full craniocaudal extension of the pleura

Fig.

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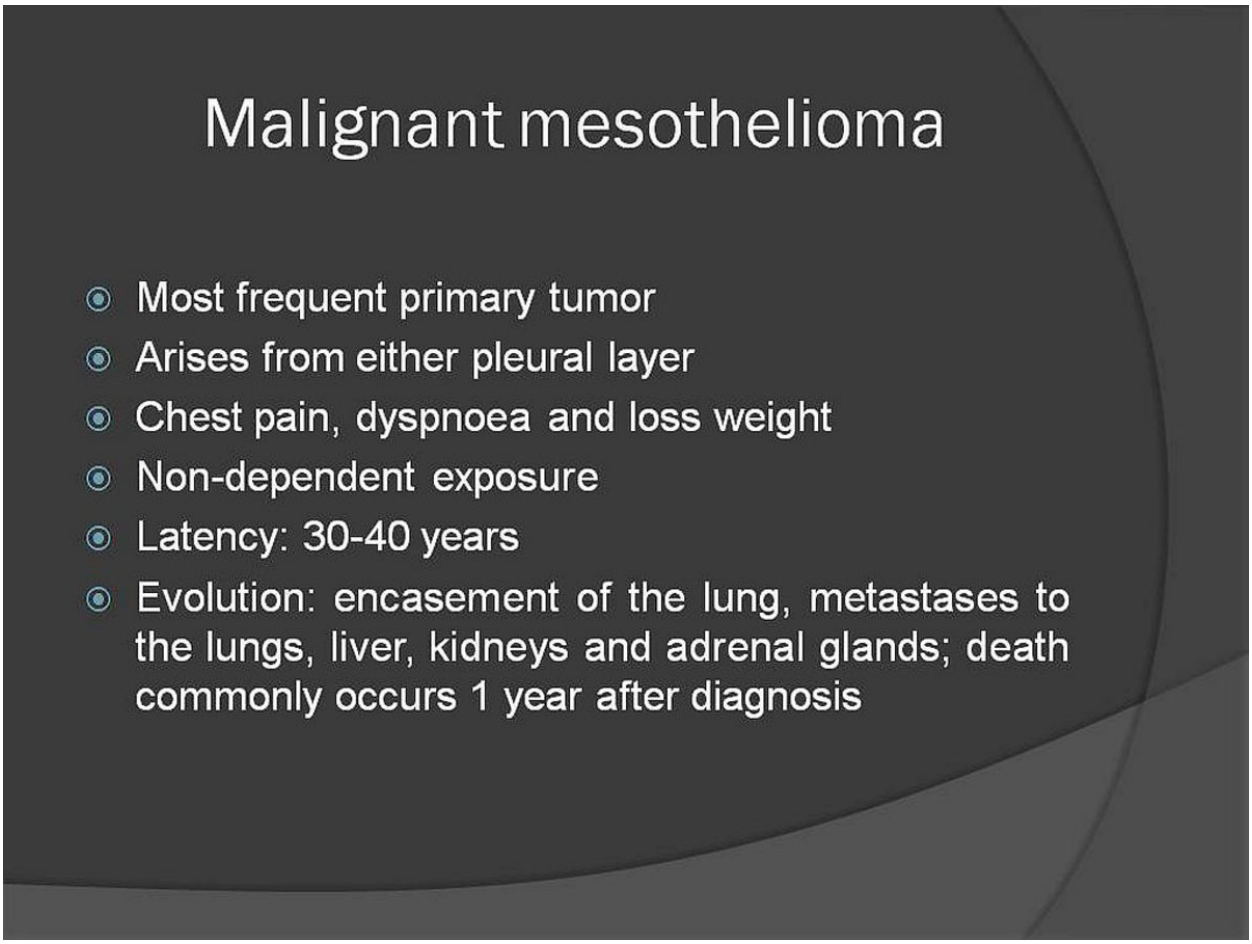

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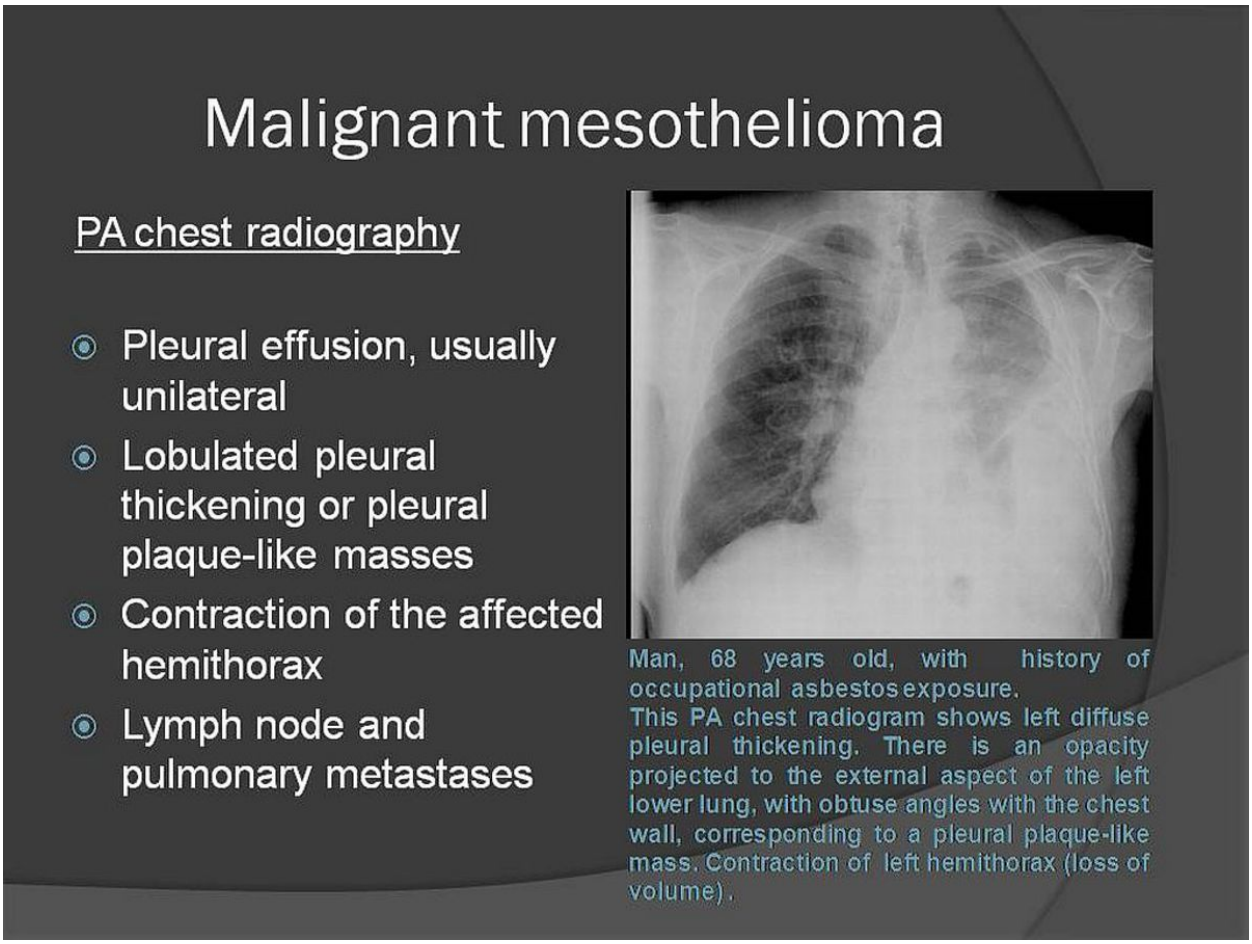

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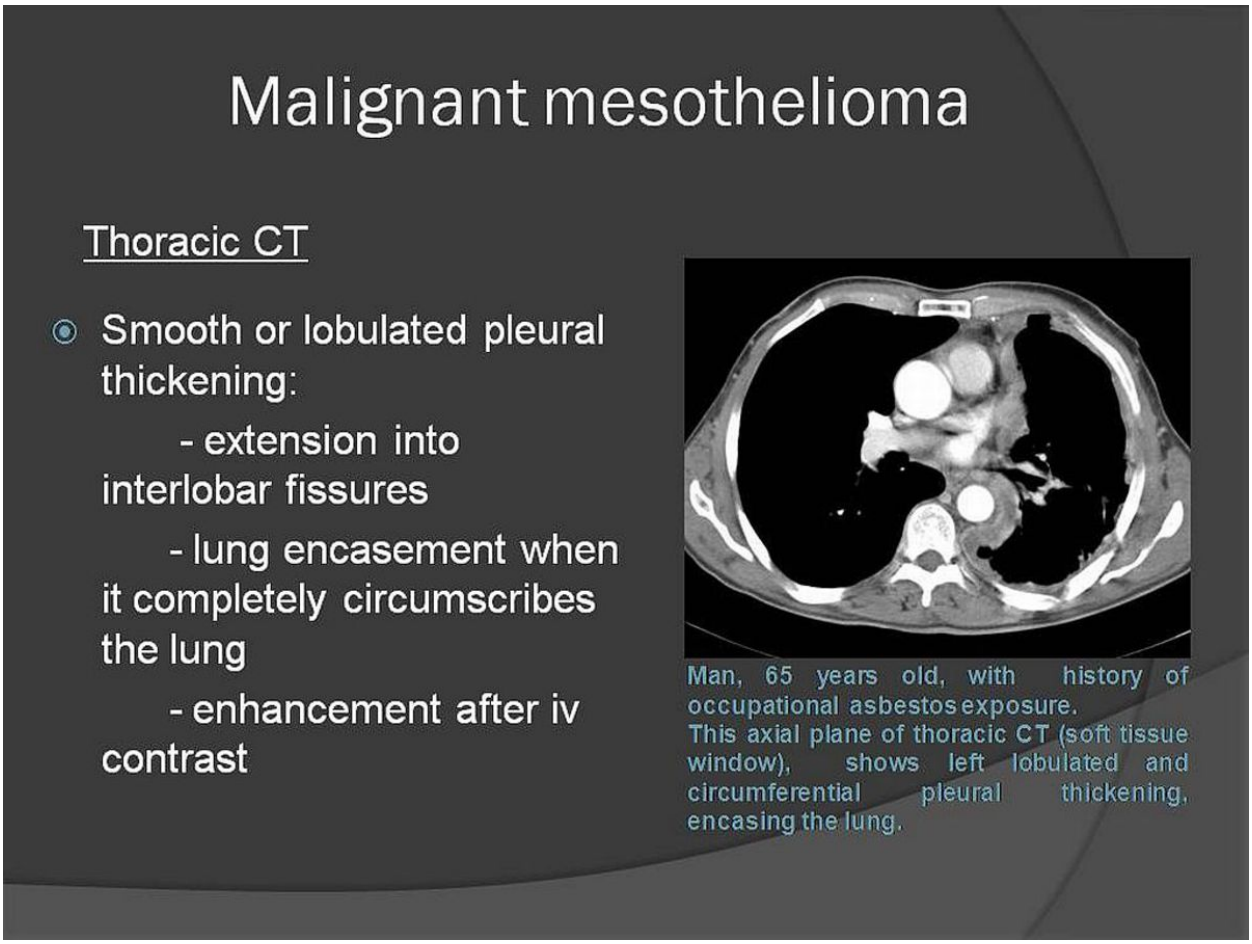

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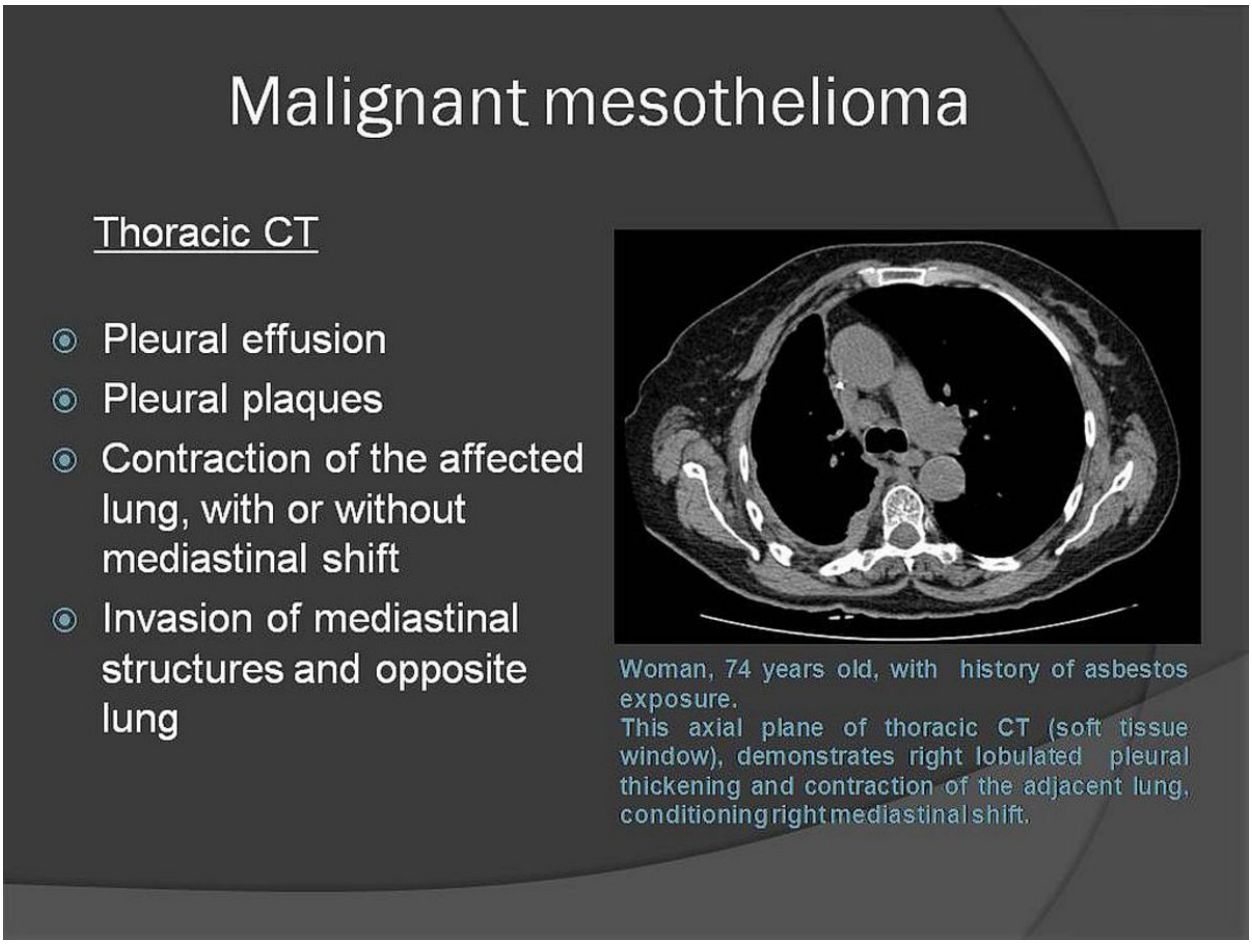

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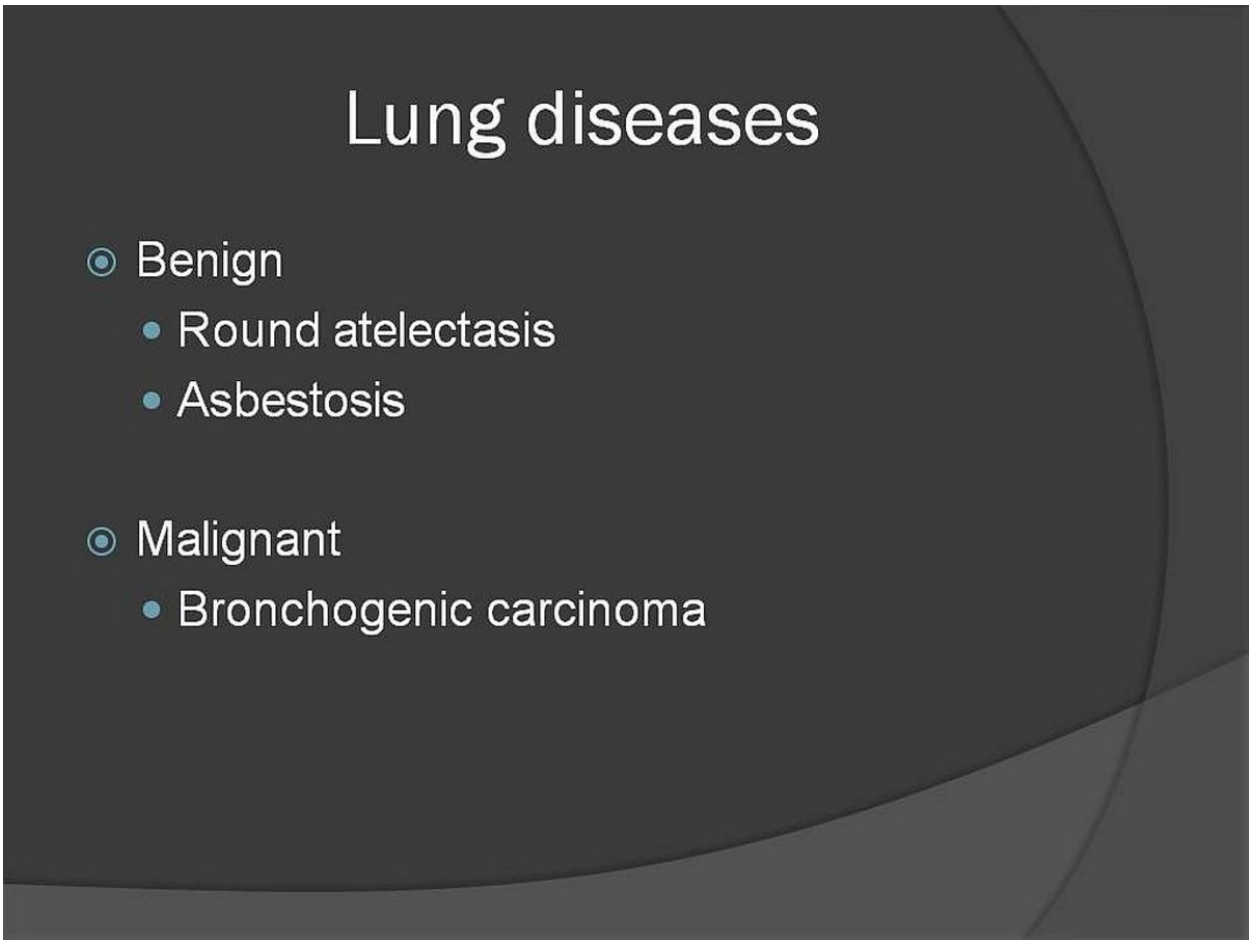

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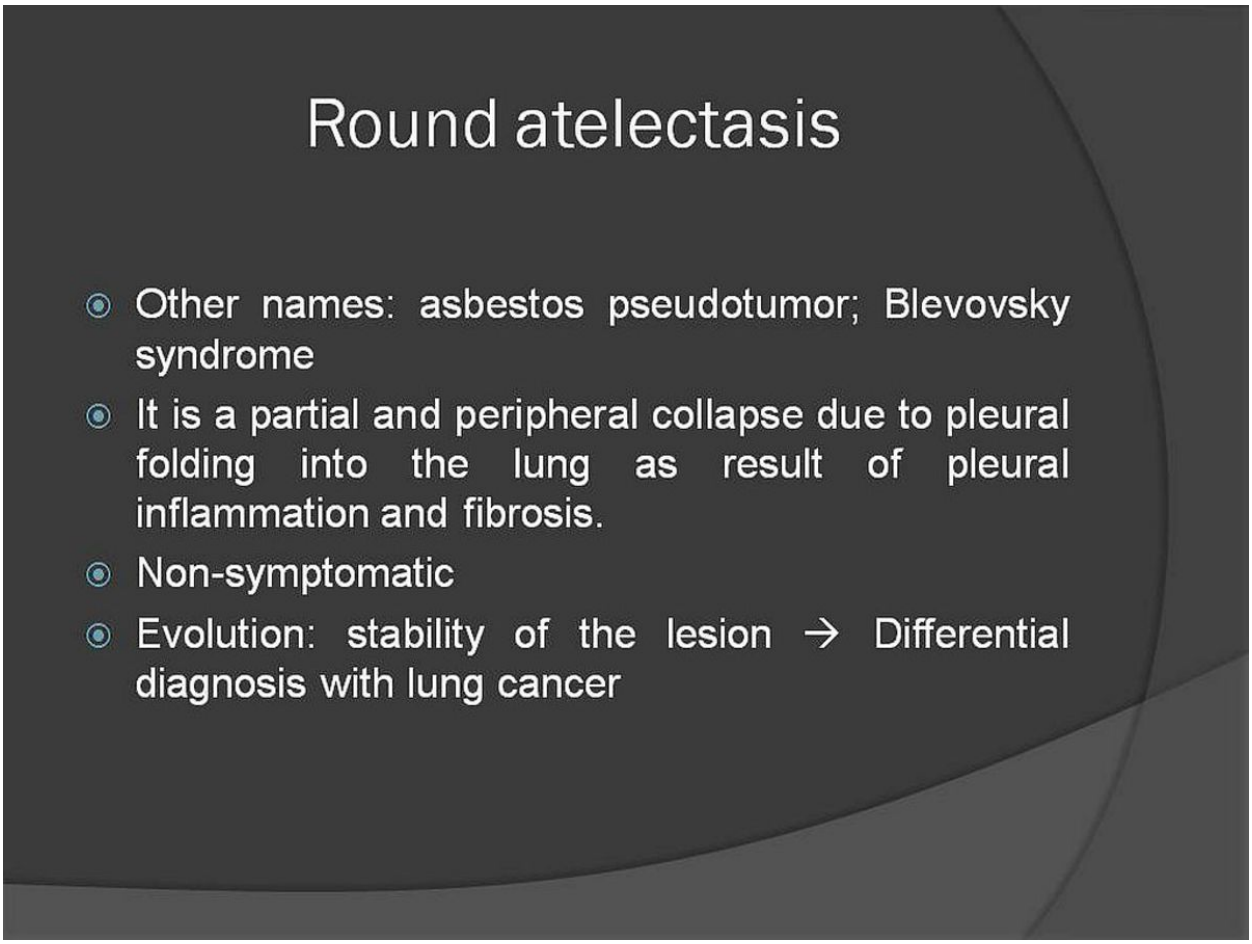

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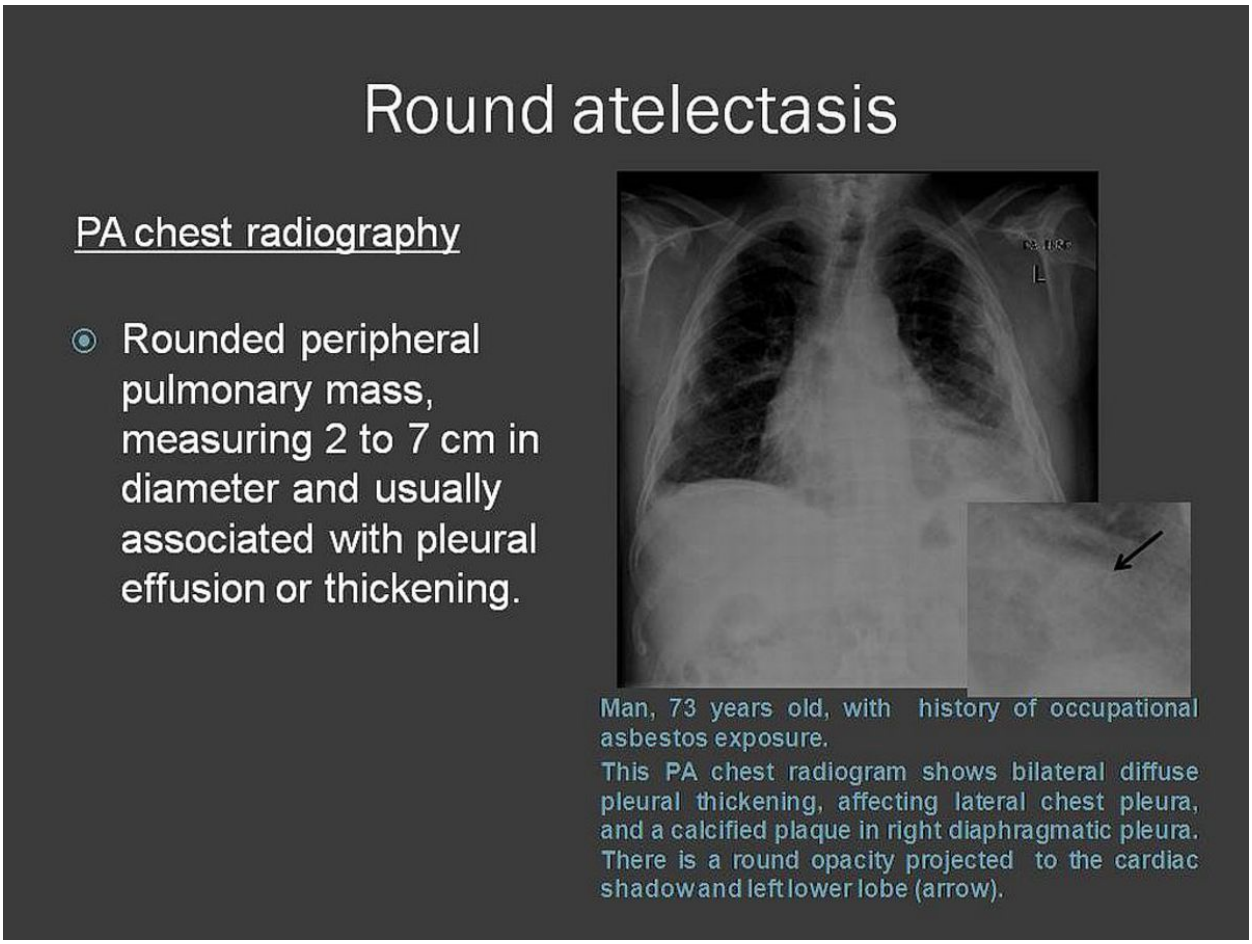

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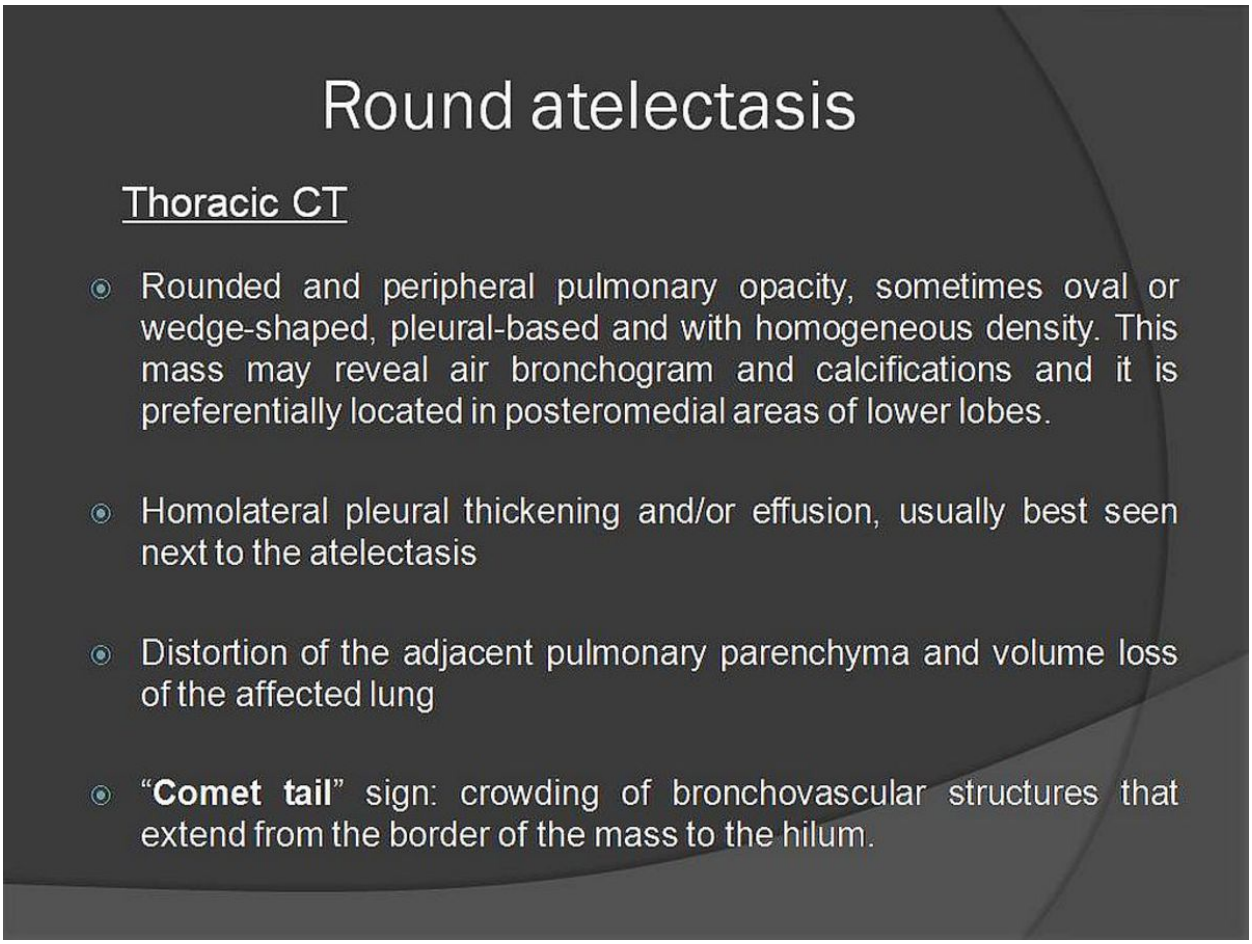

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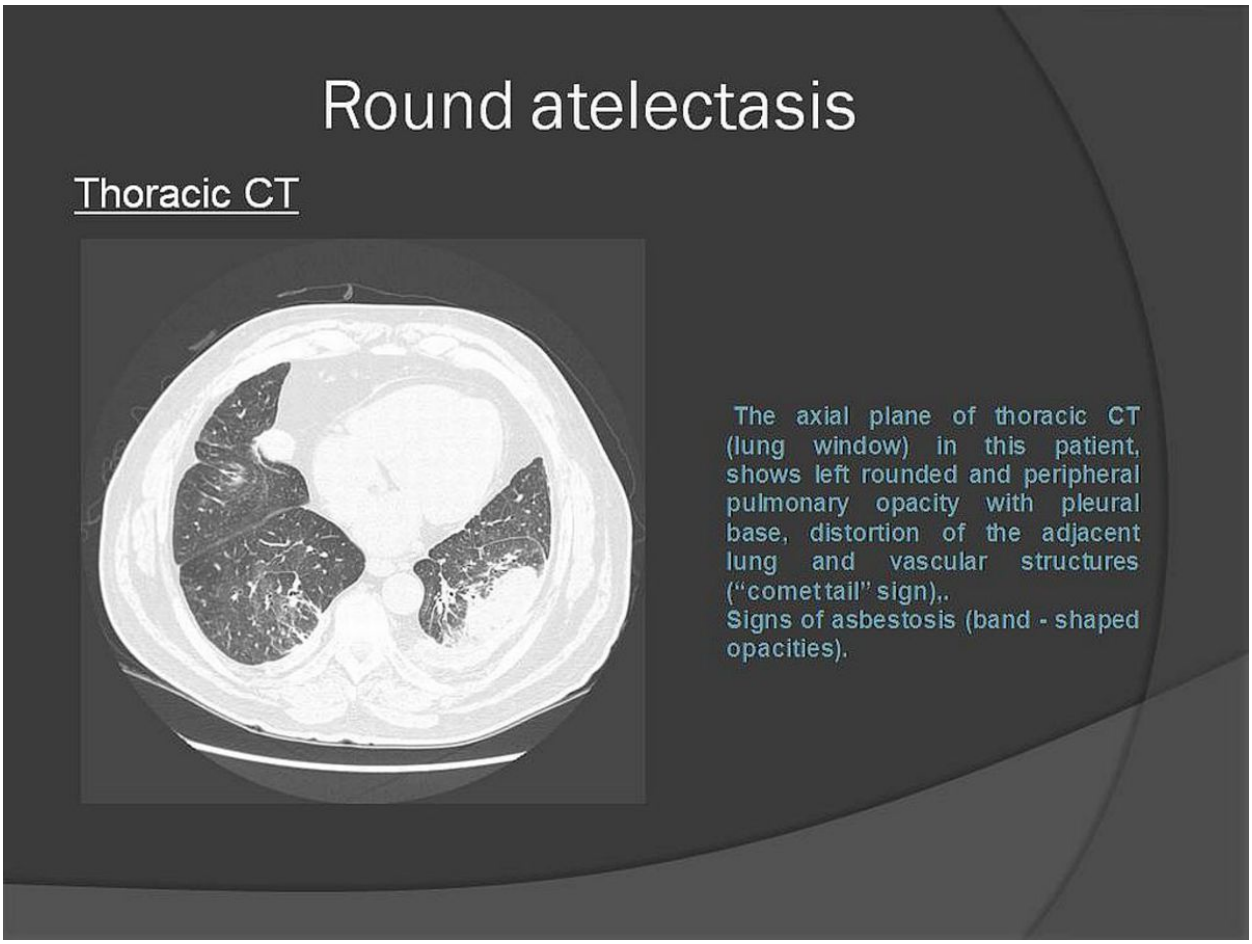

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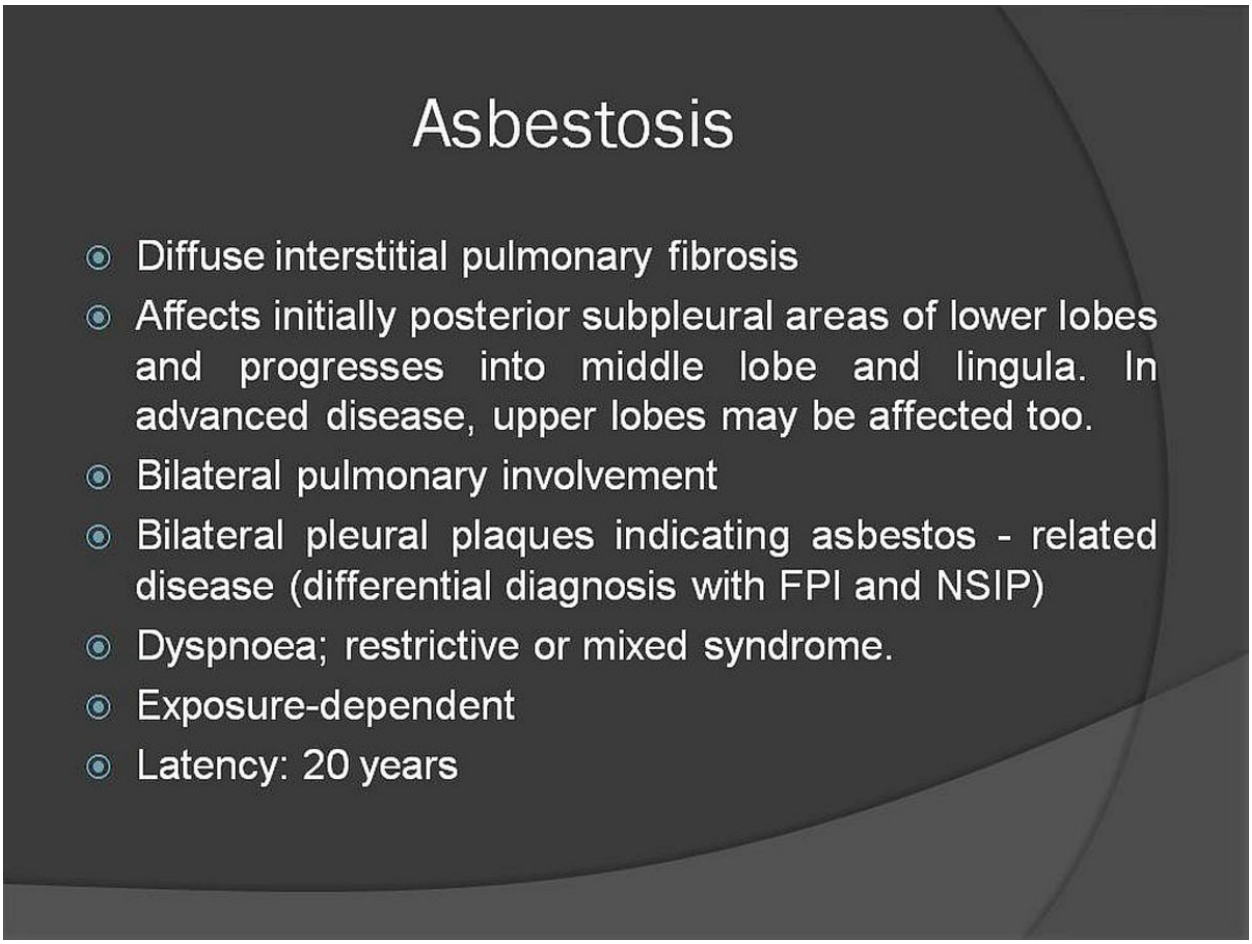

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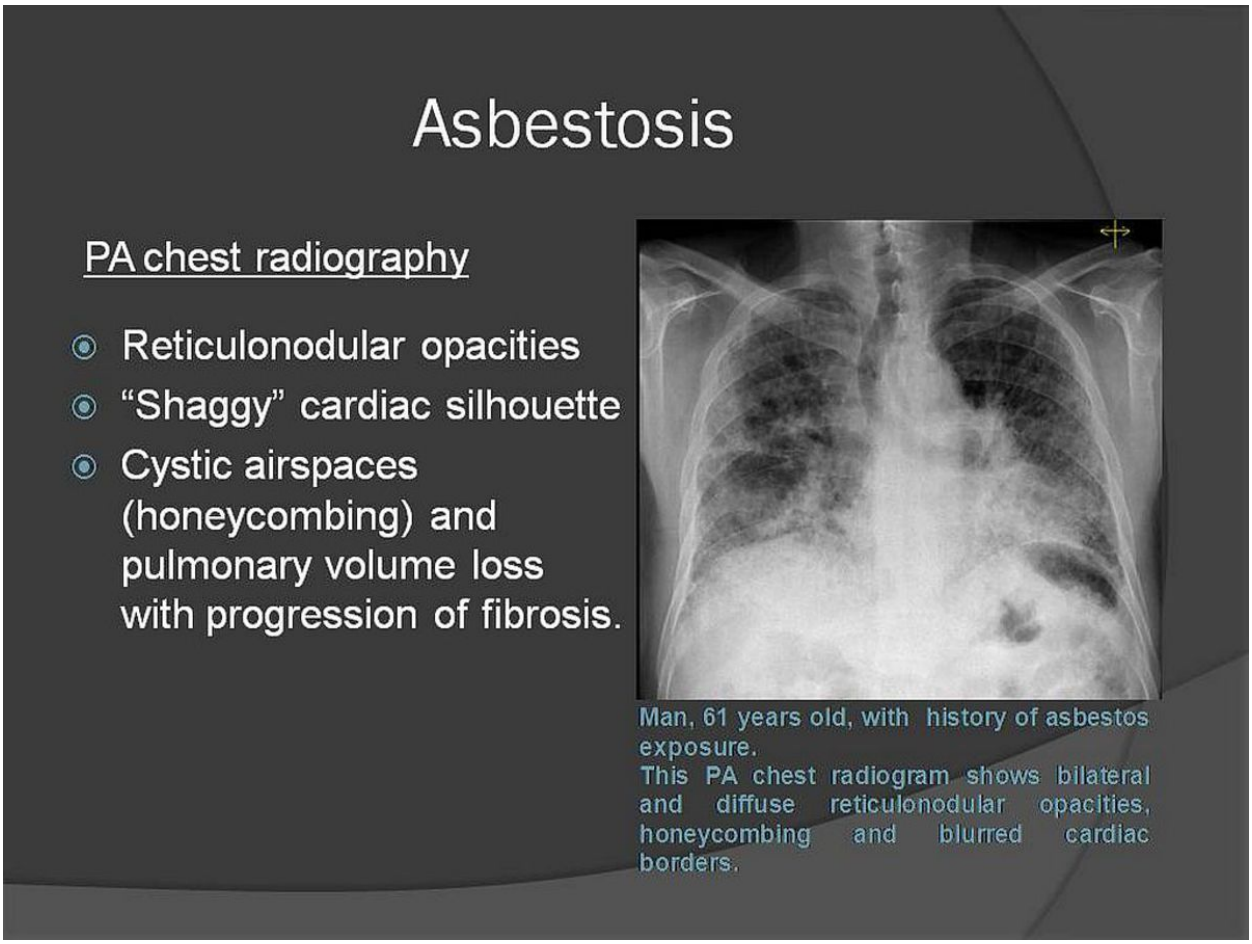

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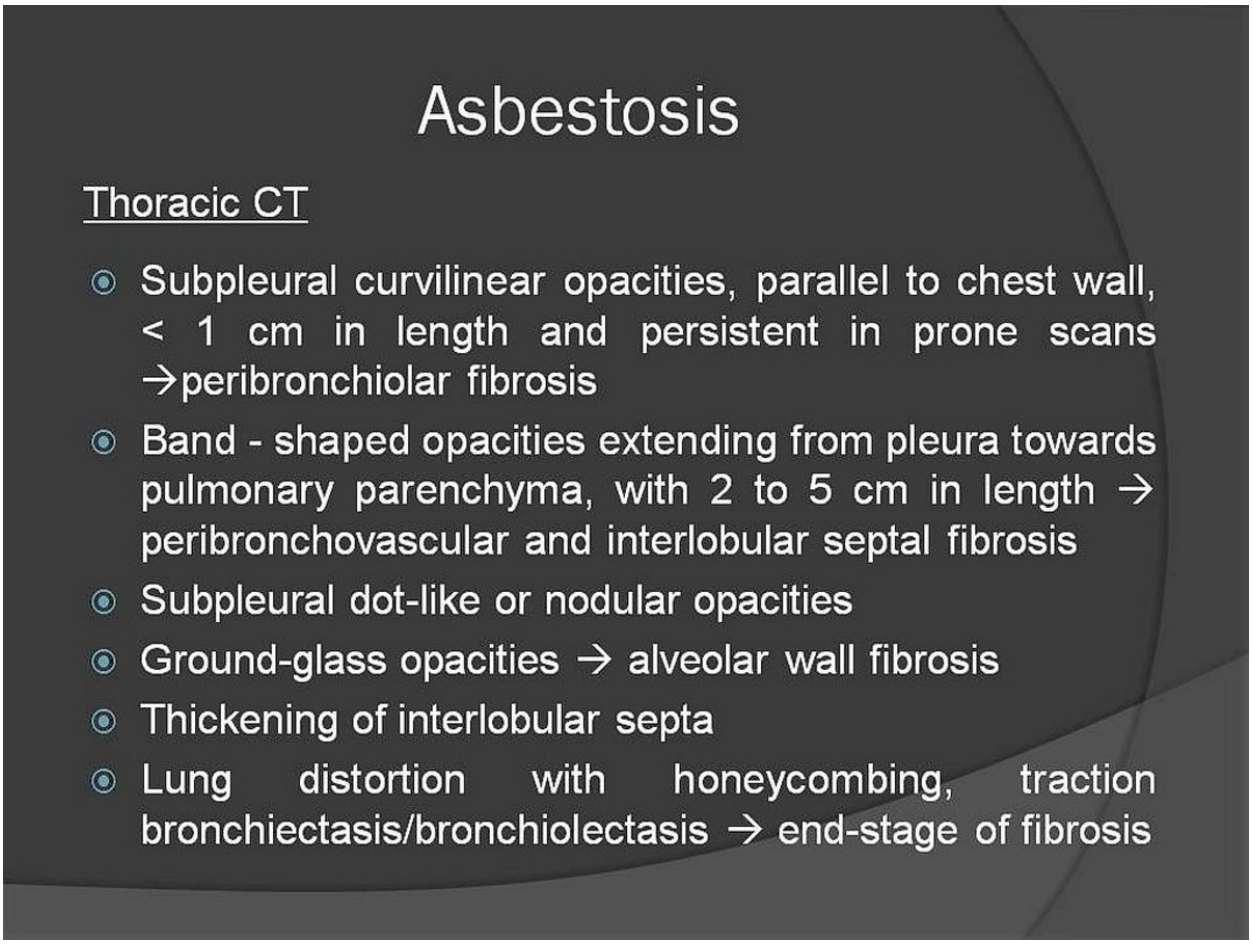

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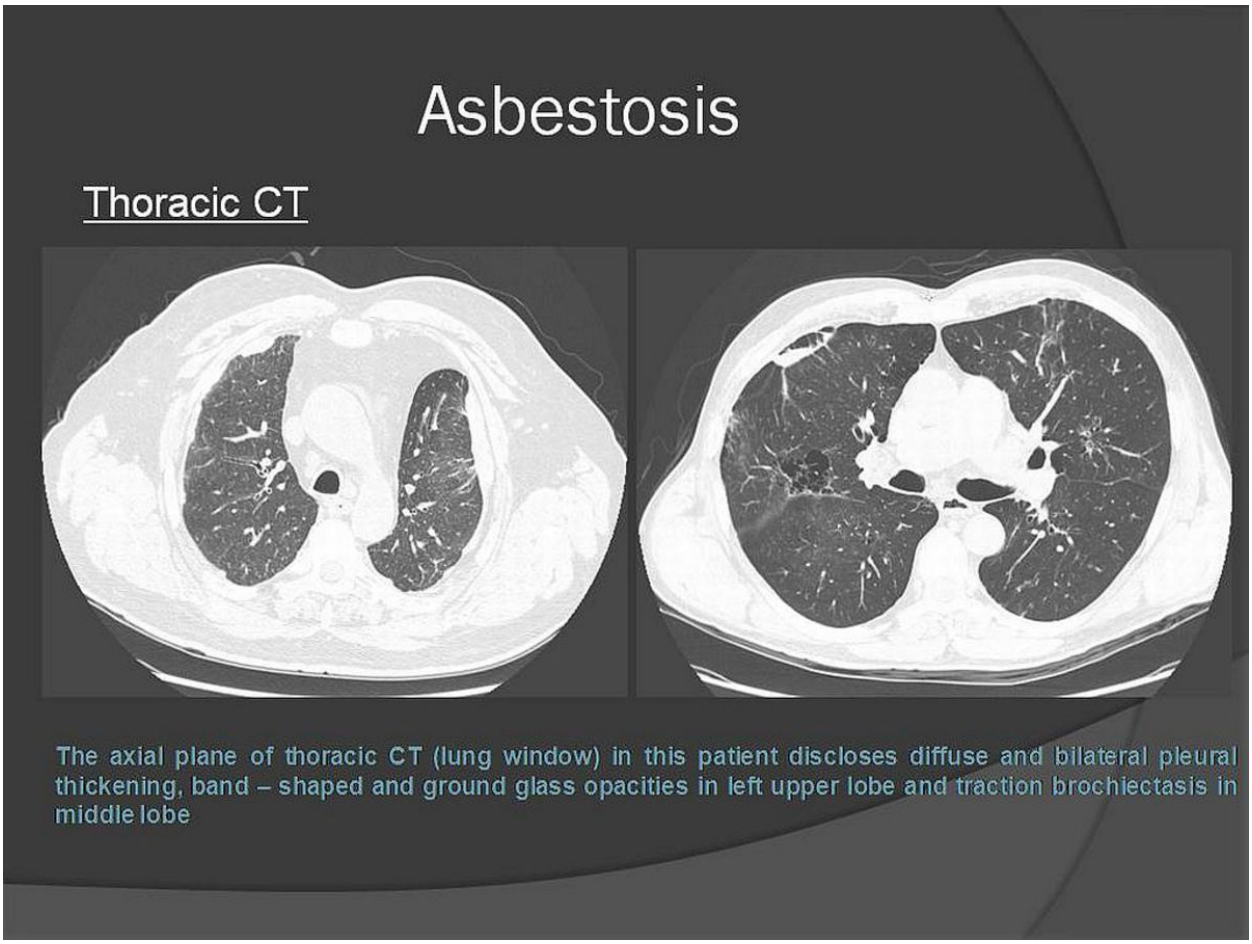

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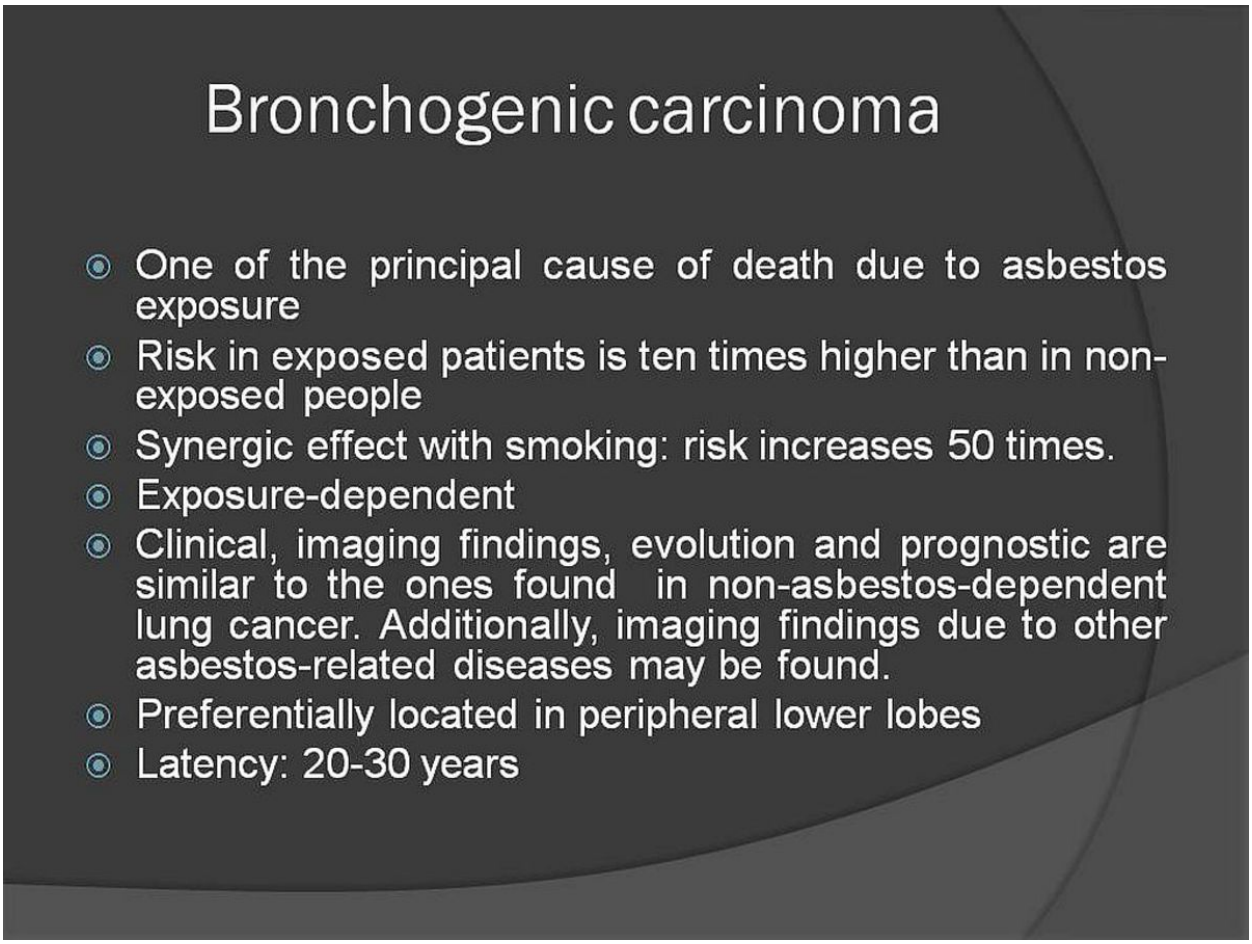

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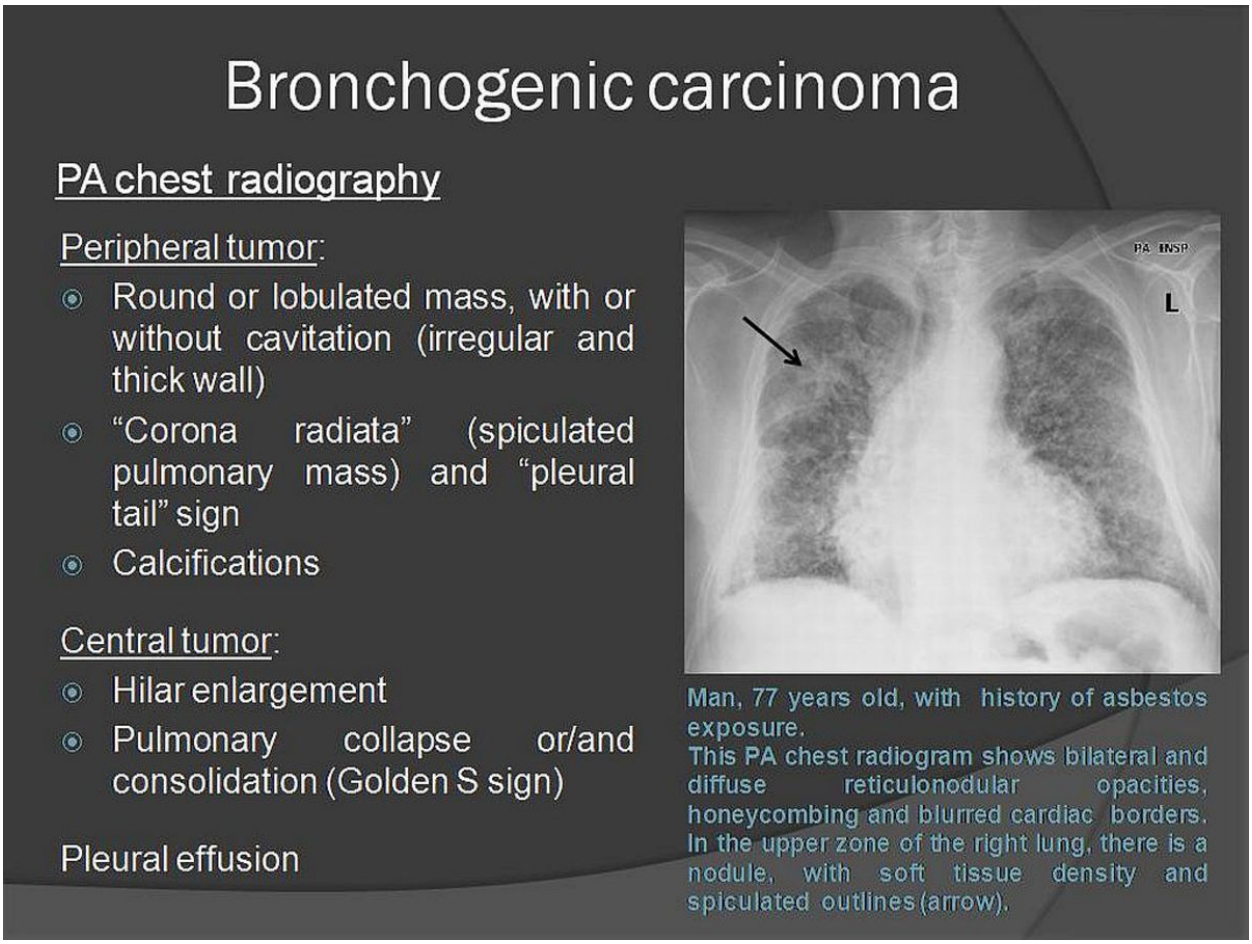

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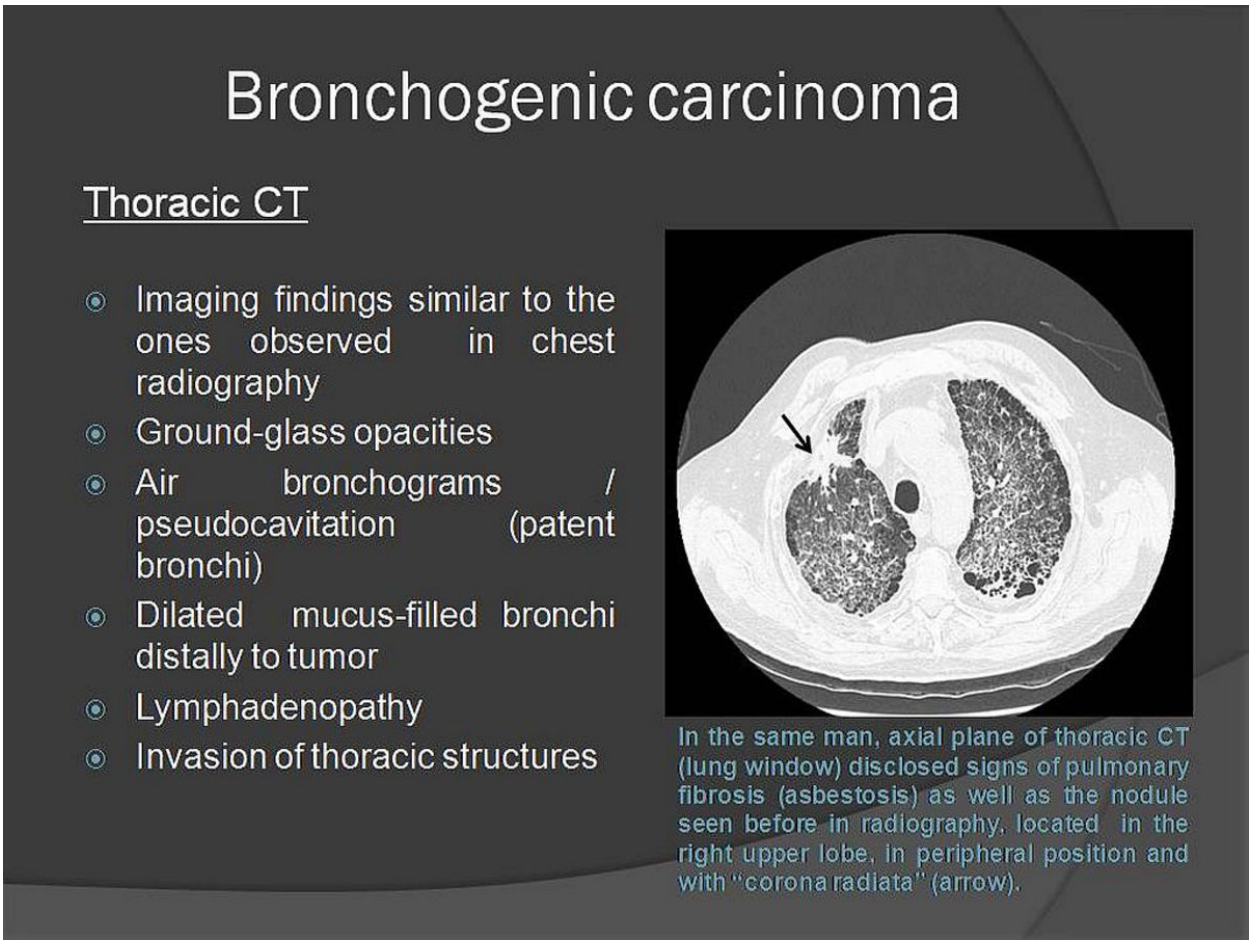

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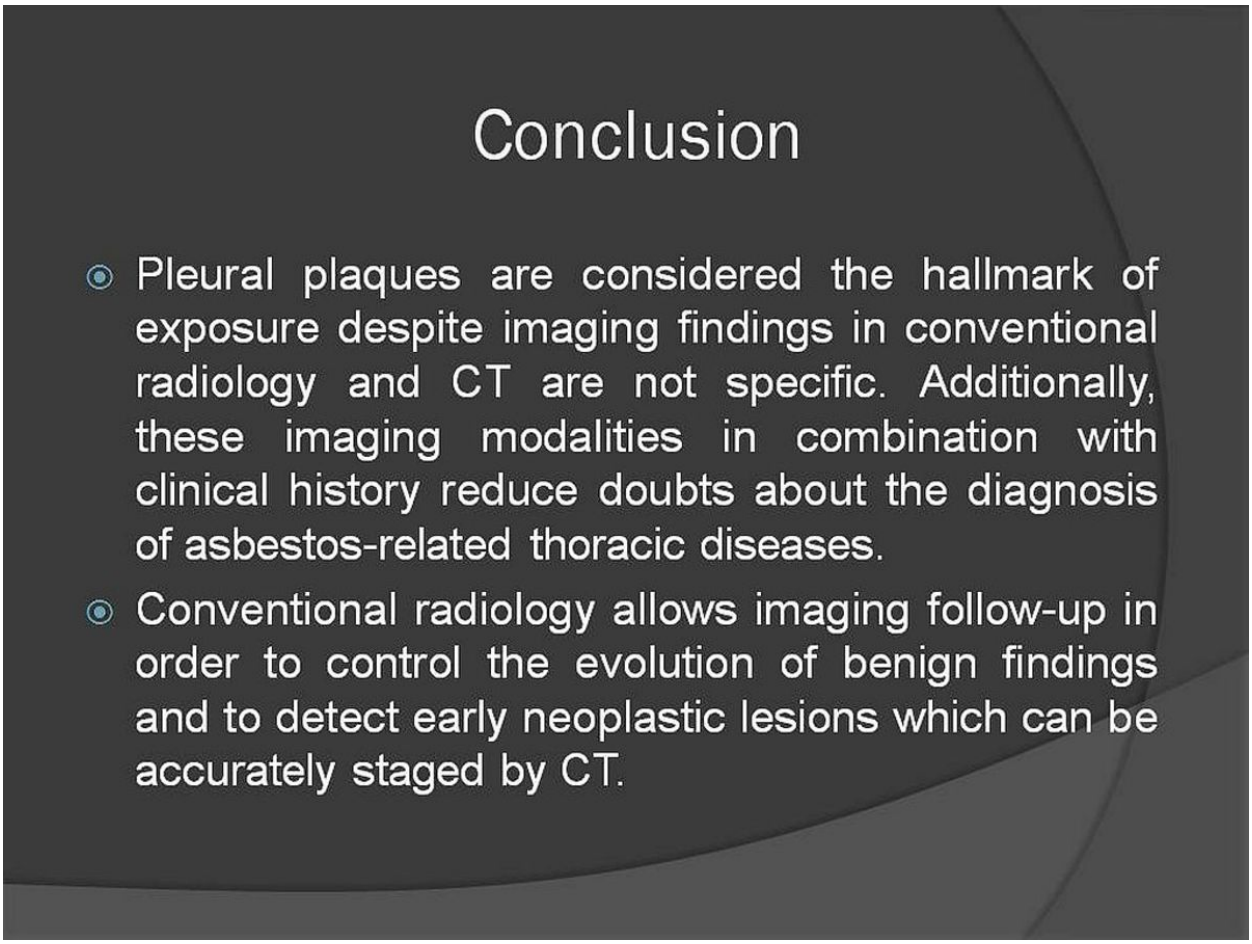
Conclusion



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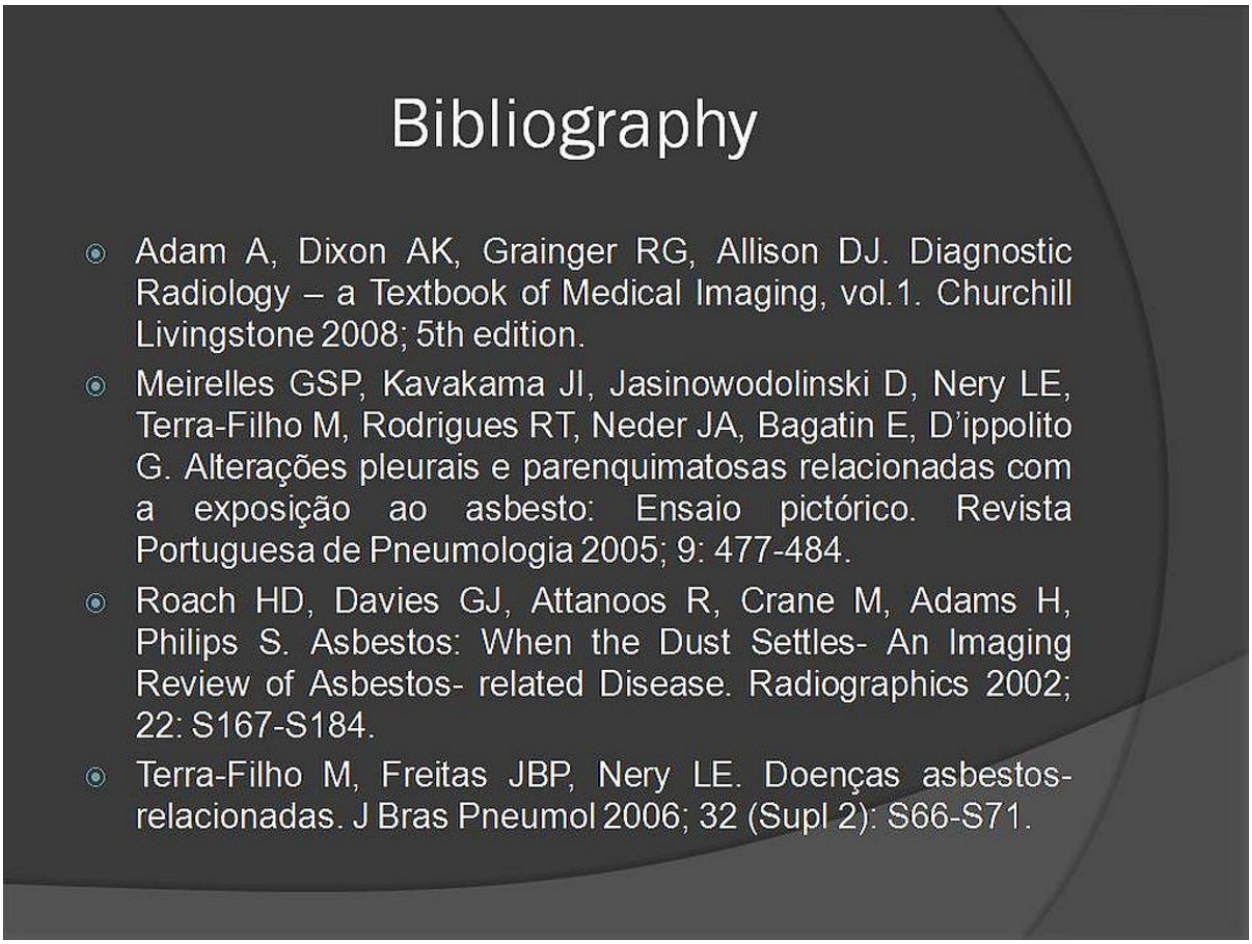
Personal Information

References



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