Non-small cell lung carcinoma (NSCLC)

Staging

http://humanhealth.iaea.org
PET/CT findings – Patient 1

No nodal involvement
(T1N0M0)

http://humanhealth.iaea.org
PET/CT findings – Patient 2

Ipsilateral nodal involvement
(T1N1M0)

http://humanhealth.iaea.org
PET/CT findings – Patient 3

Subcarinal and contralateral mediastinal lymph nodes (T2N3M0)

http://humanhealth.iaea.org
PET shows primary NSCLC in the right upper lobe (arrow) with nodal and multiple skeletal and visceral metastases, some shown in B-D. (T3N2M1)
Teaching points

• The standard of care in patients with proven non-small cell carcinoma eligible for surgery after conventional imaging, requires FDG PET to confirm operable disease.

• PET can provide more accurate prognostic stratification and appropriately guide management.


• Routine FDG PET with selective mediastinoscopy can prevent potentially inappropriate surgery resulting in significant cost savings.