

Hounsfield Units – CT chest

- Fluid: 0
- Air: -1000
- Lung: -400 - -700
- Intravenous contrast: +300
- Blood and soft tissue: +30 + +80
- Fat: -50 - -150

Intrathoracic tumor that can be diagnosed by routine CT scan

Benign - low growing without malignant transformation

- Pleural lipomas
 - Rounded, completely homogeneous fat attenuation without any calcification, and do not enhance with contrast material
 - HU -50 -150
- Hamartomas
 - Calcium along with fat attenuation
- Management
 - Clinical observation and periodic surveillance for without symptoms and without involvement of local anatomical structures
 - Surgical resection for lesions that cause symptoms, with some advocating for early surgical intervention when lesions are large, because the surgical procedure is easier if performed before tissue infiltration

Malignant

- Liposarcomas
 - HU higher than -50
 - Heterogeneous with contrast enhancement
 - Invasion of neighboring anatomical structures
 - Management
 - PET scanning and core needle aspiration should be considered