

Table 8 Primary tumour associated with malignant effusions and sensitivity of each of the criteria used for the definitive diagnosis of malignant effusions

| Variable | No. | % |
|---|-------|-------|
| <i>Primary tumour</i> | | |
| Cancer of lung | 12 | 38.7 |
| Cancer of breast | 5 | 16.2 |
| Lymphomas | 3 | 9.7 |
| Mesothelioma | 3 | 9.7 |
| Cancer of ovary | 2 | 6.5 |
| Cancer of colon | 1 | 3.2 |
| Cancer of oesophagus | 1 | 3.2 |
| Cancer of uterus | 1 | 3.2 |
| Cancer of thyroid | 1 | 3.2 |
| Synovial sarcoma | 1 | 3.2 |
| Unknown | 1 | 3.2 |
| Total | 31 | 100.0 |
| <i>Sensitivity of the diagnostic criteria</i> | | |
| Pleural fluid cytology positive | 24/31 | 77.4 |
| Needle pleural biopsy positive | 13/18 | 72.2 |