

Supplementary

Table S1 The association between number of passes and biopsy success

No. of passes	No. of stations	Odds ratio (95% confidence interval)	P value
1	37	As reference	–
2	173	1.42 (0.70–2.89)	0.327
3	103	3.09 (1.41–6.80)	0.005
≥4	38	7.65 (2.27–25.81)	0.001

Number of passes was defined as the number of needle punctures per lymph node.

Table S3 *Post-hoc* analysis between imaging subgroups

Subgroup	P value	
	Raw	Adjusted
None vs. Either	0.012	0.035
None vs. Both	<0.001	<0.001
Either vs. Both	<0.001	<0.001

None group: defined as having cancer findings on either CT or PET/CT; Either group: defined as having cancer findings on either CT or PET/CT scan; Both group: defined as having cancer findings on CT and PET/CT. CT, computed tomography; PET, positron emission tomography.

Table S2 Differences in the success rate according to the imaging subgroup

Subgroup	No. of stations (%)	Biopsy				P value
		Failed, n (%)	Success, n (%)	Success percentage (%)	Success ratio	
None	50 (14.2)	39 (34.8)	11 (4.6)	22.0	1:0.28	<0.001
Either	75 (21.4)	42 (37.5)	33 (13.8)	44.0	1:0.79	
Both	226 (64.4)	31 (27.7)	195 (81.6)	86.3	1:6.29	
Total	351	112	239	68.1	1:2.13	

None group: defined as having cancer findings on either CT or PET/CT; Either group: defined as having cancer findings on either CT or PET/CT scan; Both group: defined as having cancer findings on CT and PET/CT. CT, computed tomography; PET, positron emission tomography.