

	Pure Transudate	Modified Transudate	Hemorrhage	Non-septic Exudate	Septic Exudate	FIP high protein, low cells	Bilious Effusion	Uroabdomen	Chylous Effusion
Color	clear	straw colored to blood tinged	red	blood tinged	creamy flocculent creamy tomato soup	straw colored to yellow	yellow green brown blood tinged	Clear to dark yellow	Opalescent white pink like Pepto Bismol
Consistency	water	like serum	like blood	serum-like to mucoid	thicker than serum	like serum to mucoid	like serum or thicker	like serum or urine	like serum or thicker
Turbidity	clear	clear to slightly cloudy	Very turbid to opaque	cloudy	Cloudy flocculent	Clear to cloudy	slightly cloudy to opaque	acute clear chronic cloudy	opalescent to opaque
Total Solids	<2.5 g/dl	2.5-5.0 g/dl	>3.0 g/dl	>3.0 g/dl	>3.0 g/dl	>3.5 g/dl	>3.0 g/dl		>2.5 g/dl
Specific Gravity	<1.018	1.018-1.025	>1.025	>1.025	>1.025	1.018-1.050	>1.025		>1.018
Nucleated Cell Count	<1000/ul	500-10,000/ul	>1,000/ul	>5,000/ul	>5,000/ul	usually 5,000/ul almost always <10,000/	>5,000/ul		Variable higher with chronicity
Differential	mononuclear cells mesothelial lymphocytes macrophages ± nondegenerate neutrophils	mesothelial cells macrophages nondegenerate neutrophils lymphocytes ± peripheral blood	peripheral blood ± erythrophagocytosis	nondegenerate neutrophils, macrophages ± phagocytized debris mesothelial cells increased if chronic ± neoplastic cells, ± peripheral blood	degenerate neutrophils ± phagocytized bacteria and debris macrophages ± phagocytized bacteria and debris ± mesothelial ± peripheral blood	lymphocytes macrophages plasma cells ± peripheral blood proteinaceous background with crescents nondegenerate neutrophils with chronicity	neutrophils ± degenerate macrophages more with time ± phagocytized bilirubin crystals & brown-green granular bile Pigment ± bilirubin crystals & brown-green granular bile Pigment ± lymphocytes		lymphocytes predominate early nondegenerate neutrophils with chronicity ± mesothelial more with time
Organisms	no	no	no	no	bacteria free in fluid phagocytized	no	± bacteria	± bacteria	rare
Lipid Droplets	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes
Special Tests				Amylase and lipase > serum with pancreatitis	Glucose < 50 and less than serum often indicates septic peritonitis	TP 5-12 g/dl A:G ratio <0.8 <0.45 strong evidence protein electrophoresis like serum PCR/Ab titer ≥ serum	bilirubin > serum Hepatobiliary scintigraphy can diagnose biliary rupture definitely	BUN = serum creat > serum Intravenous or retrograde urogram can diagnose ruptured urinary tract definitively	triglycerides >serum Cholesterol <serum