

specialist. Blood tests may include FBC, blood film, PTH, LFTs, LDH, calcium (plasma or serum), phosphate (plasma or serum), albumin (plasma or serum), protein (total), protein electrophoresis (serum), CRP and Bence Jones protein (urine).^{[2][8][9]} Other investigations such as FNAB, tissue biopsy, bone biopsy (fracture site), bone marrow aspiration and trephine biopsy may be considered as appropriate.^[9]

8.4.1.3

Risk factors

Osteosarcoma has been associated with radiotherapy treatment for cancer during childhood (risk increases with treatment at a younger age and/or being treated with higher doses of radiation), chemotherapy treatment for cancer during childhood (e.g. alkylating agents) and genetic disorders such as retinoblastoma, Li-Fraumeni syndrome and Rothmund-Thomson syndrome.^{[3][1][4]} Rapid bone growth *in utero* (i.e. high-birth weight) and at puberty (i.e. above average height) may also increase the risk of osteosarcoma.^[10]

The key risk factor for Ewing sarcoma is race, with Caucasian youth typically affected.^{[1][4]}

However, bone tumours can occur in AYAs without any of these risk factors.

8.4.2 References

1. Adolescent and Young Adult Working Party of the Statewide Cancer Clinical Network. *South Australian Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Care Pathway: Optimising outcomes for all adolescent and young adult South Australians with a cancer diagnosis*. Adelaide: South Australia Department of Health; 2010.
2. National Collaborating Centre for Primary Care. *Referral Guidelines for Suspected Cancer. Clinical guideline 27*. London: National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence; 2005.
3. National Collaborating Centre for Cancer. *Improving Outcomes for People with Sarcoma: The Manual*. London: National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence; 2006.
4. New Zealand Guidelines Group. *Suspected cancer in primary care: guidelines for investigation, referral and reducing ethnic disparities*. Wellington: New Zealand Guidelines Group; 2009.
5. Widhe B, Widhe T. *Initial symptoms and clinical features in osteosarcoma and Ewing sarcoma*. J Bone Joint Surg Am 2000 May;82(5):667-74 Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/10819277>.
6. Bleyer A. *CAUTION! Consider cancer: common symptoms and signs for early detection of cancer in young adults*. Semin Oncol 2009 Jun;36(3):207-12 Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19460578>.
7. Aboulafia AJ, Levin AM, Blum J. *Prereferral evaluation of patients with suspected bone and soft tissue tumors*. Clin Orthop Relat Res 2002 Apr;(397):83-8 Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/11953599>.
8. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. *NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines™) Bone Cancer Version 1.2012*. 2011 Available from: http://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/pdf/bone.pdf.
9. Royal College of Pathologists of Australia. *RCPA Manual*. Sydney: Royal College of Pathologists of Australia; 2011.
10. Mirabello L, Pfeiffer R, Murphy G, Daw NC, Patiño-García A, Troisi RJ, et al. *Height at diagnosis and birth-weight as risk factors for osteosarcoma*. Cancer Causes Control 2011 Jun;22(6):899-908 Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21465145>.

8.5 Soft tissue sarcoma