

# Diagnostic Tool

## Is it bone sarcoma? (Scotland)

🐦 @Sarcoma\_UK  
📷 @Sarcoma\_UK  
📘 uk.sarcoma  
[sarcoma.org.uk](http://sarcoma.org.uk)

All patients with a suspected/diagnosed bone sarcoma should be referred to a Sarcoma Specialist Centre.

### Clinical presentations

Unexplained bone pain or tenderness, which is:

- persistent
- increasing
- non-mechanical
- nocturnal or at rest

### Investigations

#### Adults

- Refer for urgent x-ray
- Refer for urgent appointment to a sarcoma specialist centre if x-ray suggests bone sarcoma or if findings are uncertain and clinical concern remains

#### Children

- Refer for very urgent x-ray
- Refer for urgent appointment for specialist assessment at a sarcoma specialist centre if an x-ray suggests bone sarcoma or if findings are uncertain and clinical concern remains

**Note:** Radiographs may be normal in patients with early bone sarcoma.

### Sarcoma Specialist Centres: Bone

1. **Aberdeen Royal Infirmary**
2. **Dundee Ninewells Hospital**
3. **Edinburgh**  
split between Royal Infirmary and Western General Hospital
4. **Glasgow**  
split between Royal Infirmary, Western Infirmary, Gartnavel General Hospital, Southern General and Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre
5. **Inverness Raigmore Hospital**  
Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

**Note:** Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Glasgow Centres deliver radiology, pathology, surgery, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and palliative care.

Dundee and Inverness Centres deliver radiology, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and palliative care.

### Further information

- NICE Guidelines for Suspected Cancer (2015)
- NICE Guidelines for Sarcoma (2006)
- British Sarcoma Group guidelines
- [sarcoma.org.uk/health-professionals/sarcoma-specialist-centres](http://sarcoma.org.uk/health-professionals/sarcoma-specialist-centres)
- Scottish Sarcoma Network  
<https://www.ssn.scot.nhs.uk/>