

ViewMedica



Osteosarcoma





Overview

This is a cancerous bone tumor. It tends to affect growing teens and people over age 60. Although osteosarcoma may form in any bone, we most often see it in a large bone near a growth plate. That's the part of the bone that expands as you grow.

Causes

Why does an osteosarcoma form? Well, we don't know the cause. This cancer can run in families, so in some cases it may be linked to genes. Researchers are working to better understand this disease.

Symptoms

What are the symptoms of osteosarcoma? Often, it begins with pain in a bone near a joint. You may have tenderness, swelling or redness. It can limit your movement. If it's in the leg, you may limp. If it's in your arm, you may have pain when lifting. Osteosarcoma can weaken your bone and lead to a fracture.

Treatment

Treatment options typically include chemotherapy and surgery to remove the tumor. Your treatment will depend on your needs. Your healthcare provider will create a care plan that's right for you.