

# Learning to Be Worried

## A Primer in Musculoskeletal Oncology

Josh Lawrenz, MD  
Musculoskeletal Oncology  
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery  
Vanderbilt University Medical Center  
Nashville, TN USA



# Disclosures

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No relevant commercial relationships to disclose.



# Objectives

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At the conclusion of this session, participants should be able to:

1. To overview the clinical presentation, imaging findings, diagnostic workup and treatment of **malignant** bone and soft tissue sarcomas.
2. To overview the clinical presentation, imaging findings, diagnostic workup and treatment of selected **benign** bone and soft tissue tumors.
3. To overview the clinical presentation, imaging findings, diagnostic workup and treatment of **metastatic bone disease**.



# Outline

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- Introduction
- Epidemiology
- Bone Tumors
- Soft Tissue Tumors
- Take Home Points



# Introduction

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- 3 Main Tumor Types
  1. Primary Bone Tumors (Benign/Malignant)
  2. Primary Soft Tissue Tumors (Benign/Malignant)
  3. Metastatic Disease
- Extremities, pelvis, chest wall, spine
- Academic/University/Tertiary Hospitals
  - Around 200 fellowship trained MSK Oncologists in USA (1-3 / major center)



# Epidemiology

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- Sarcomas account for 1-2% of all cancers
- **Soft Tissue Sarcoma**: approx. 10,000 new cases / yr in USA
- **Bone Sarcoma**: approx. 3,000 new cases / yr in USA
- Bone metastases >>>>> Sarcoma
- All MSKL Tumors: Benign >>> Malignant



# Epidemiology

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- Rare = Orphan Disease
  - Most orthopaedic providers may only see 1 sarcoma in their career.
- BUT...the consequences of misdiagnosis and – even more so – mistreatment can be significant!

- Iatrogenic metastases
- Amputation
- Morbid resection



# Epidemiology

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- BUT...the consequences of misdiagnosis and – even more so – mistreatment can be significant!

- Iatrogenic metastases
- Amputation
- Morbid resection



=> Above  
Knee  
Amputation





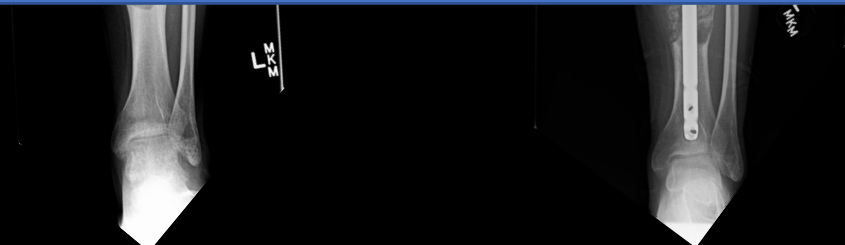
# Epidemiology

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- Rare =
  - Most
- BUT...th  
can be
  - Iatrog
  - Ampu
  - Morbid resection

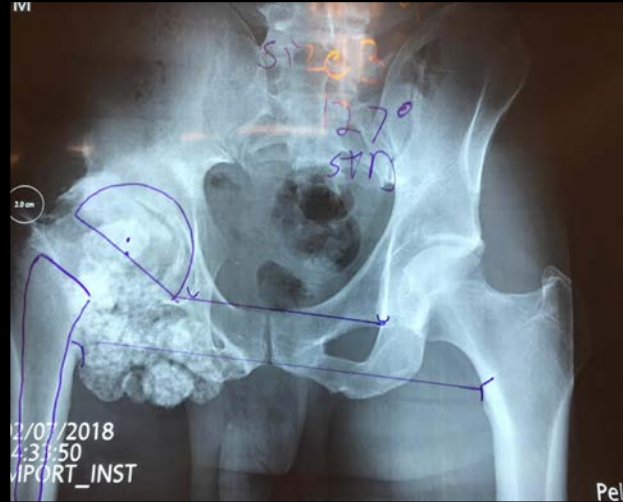
**FIRST, MAKE THE  
DIAGNOSIS!!!**

atment



# Bone Tumors

- Clinical Presentation
- Imaging
- Diagnostic Workup
- Treatment



# Bone Tumors – Clinical Presentation

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- Typically painful
  - Night pain
  - Pain with weight bearing
- History of injury can be misleading
- Low energy fracture mechanism with or without antecedent pain
- Depending on etiology can have constitutional symptoms (fevers, weight loss, night sweats)



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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Start with Plain Xrays of the ENTIRE BONE

## Enneking 4 Questions

- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

- Where is it? What bone AND what area of that bone (epiphysis, metaphysis, diaphysis)
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Epiphysis

Metaphysis

Diaphysis



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
  - What's the tumor doing to the bone?
  - What the bone doing to the tumor?
  - Matrix to indicate what type?
- Zone of transition ("geometric")
    - Area where normal bone "transitions" to diseased bone
    - **Narrow = Benign**
    - **Vague = Malignant**



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Narrow  
Geographic



Dx: aneurysmal bone cyst



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

---

- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Broad  
Nongeographic



Dx: osteosarcoma





# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Broad  
Nongeographic



Dx: lymphoma



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
  - What's the tumor doing to the bone?
  - What the bone doing to the tumor?
  - Matrix to indicate what type?
- Bone will try to contain the lesion as it grows
    - Sclerotic rim
    - Cortical expansion
    - Codman's triangle
    - Sunburst
    - Onion-skinning
    - Cortical erosion
  - Active/aggressive periosteal reaction is always bad (cancer, infection)



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?



Dx: osteosarcoma

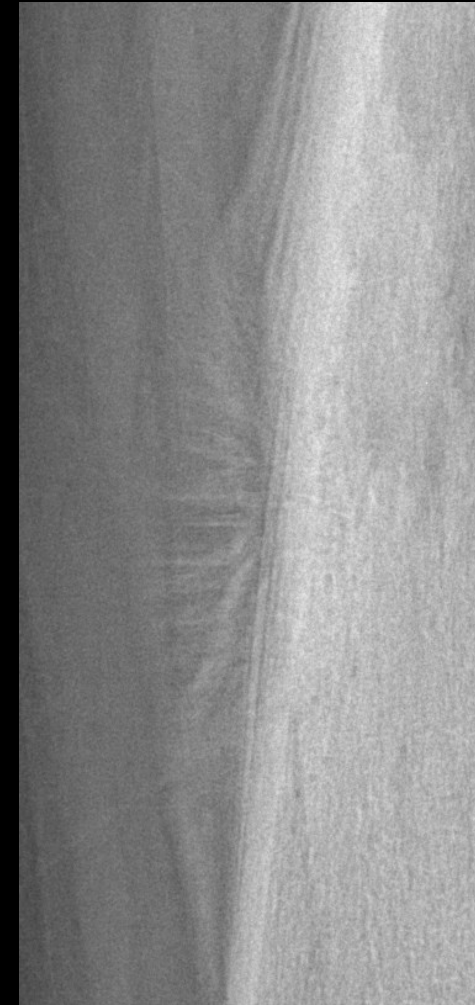


# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Sunburst  
Spiculated

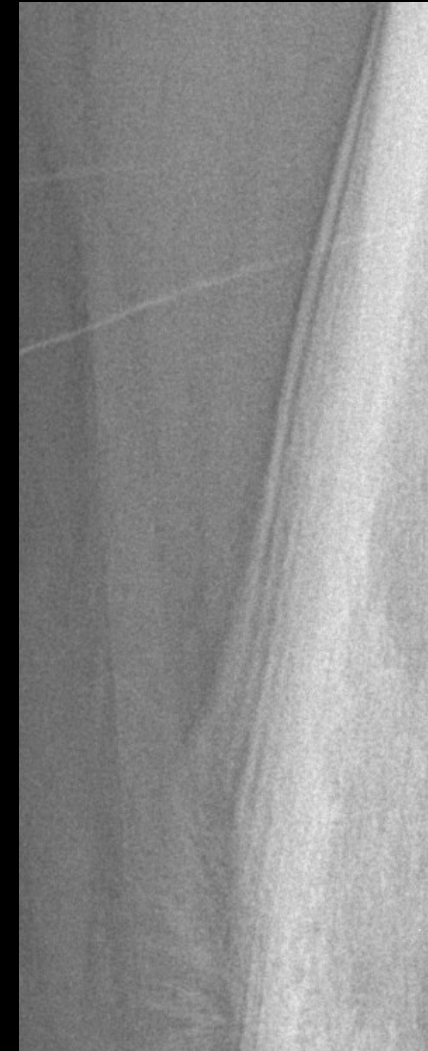


# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Codman's  
Triangle

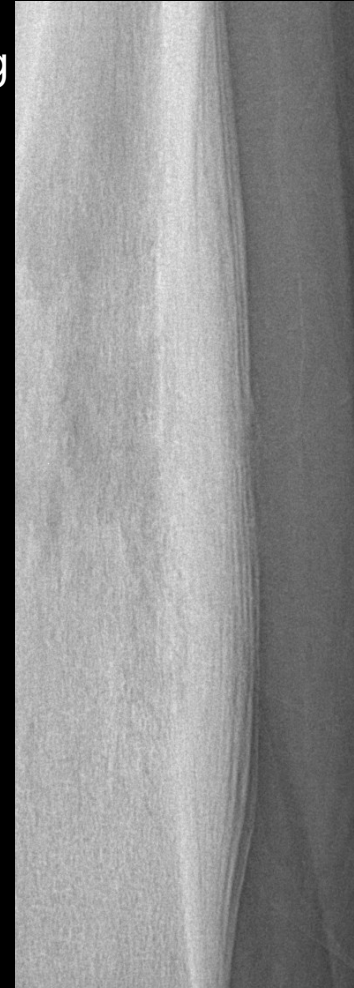


# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Onion-skinning  
Lamellated



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Osteoid (Bone)

Chondroid (Cartilage)

Fibrous

Lytic



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Osteoid



Dx: Osteosarcoma



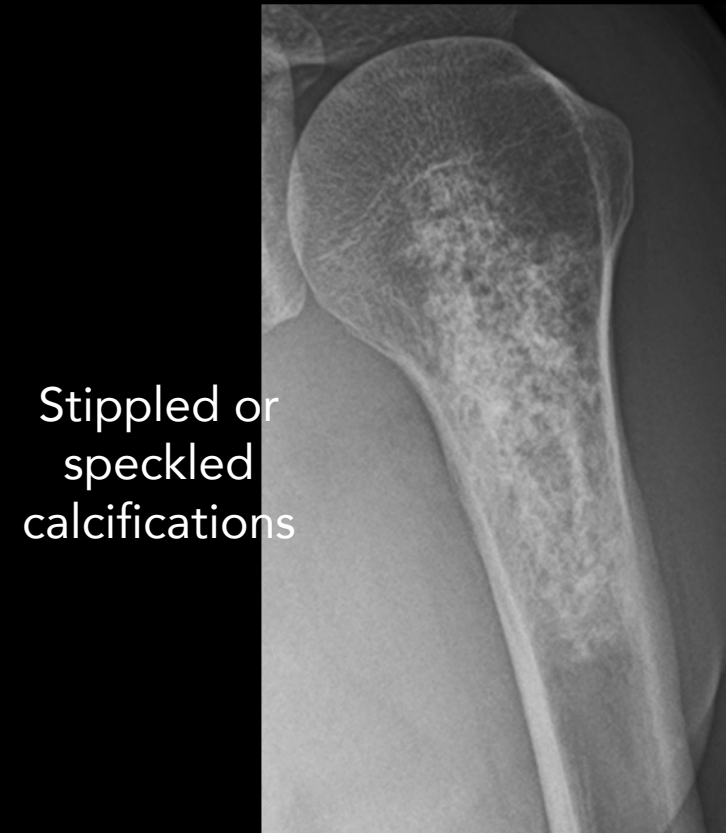


# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Chondroid



Stippled or  
speckled  
calcifications

Dx: benign enchondroma



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Fibrous



Ground glass



Dx: fibrous dysplasia



# Bone Tumors – Imaging

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- Where is it?
- What's the tumor doing to the bone?
- What the bone doing to the tumor?
- Matrix to indicate what type?

Lytic

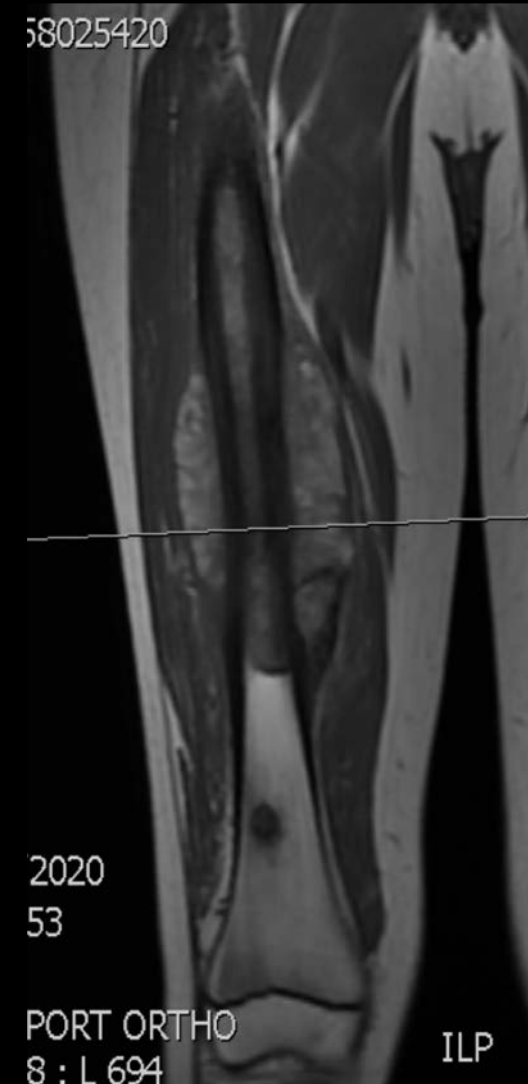


Dx: giant cell tumor of bone



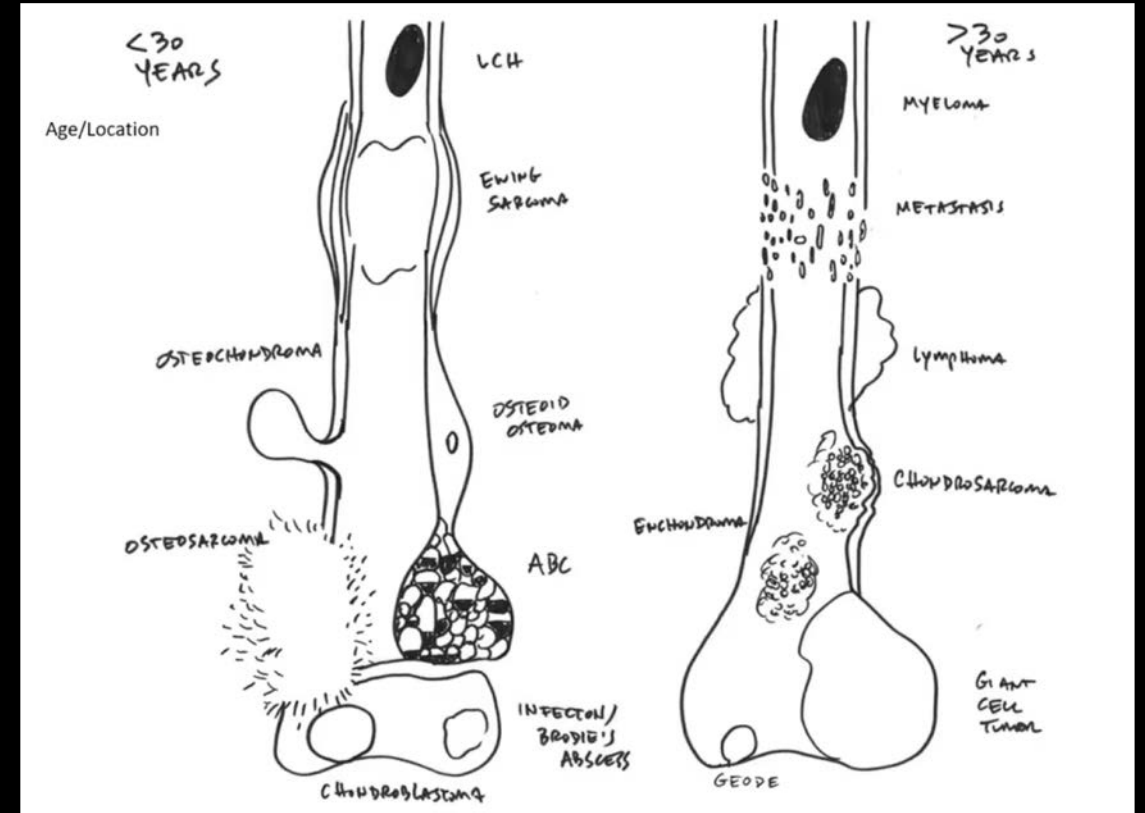
# Bone Tumors – Imaging – MRI

- If xrays concerning get **MRI WITH and WITHOUT contrast**
- Image the **WHOLE BONE**
  - i.e. Tibia MRI for proximal tibial lesion rather than a knee MRI
  - To assess for **skip lesions** or bony mets within the same bone (= distant metastasis)
- Dark T1, Bright T2, Enhancing or Heterogeneous w/contrast



# Bone Tumors – Making a Diagnosis

- Age is key as well
- <30
  - Malignant: Ewing's sarcoma, Osteosarcoma OR
  - Benign: UBC, ABC, NOF, chondroblastoma, LCH
- >30
  - Malignant: Metastatic disease, Myeloma, Lymphoma, chondrosarcoma OR
  - Benign: Enchondroma, bone infarct, subchondral cysts



# Bone Tumors – Making a Diagnosis

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- Patient Age +
- Tumor Location (w/in the bone) +
- Aggressive vs. Benign +
- Matrix (bone, cartilage, fibrous, lytic) => Differential
  
- Use time to aid your diagnosis
  - If still unsure, have patient return with repeat xrays over a short interval (2-3 months) to see if lesion is changing
  
- *The goal does not always have to be to make a firm diagnosis, but to know when you should be worried enough to look deeper or refer*



# Bone Tumors – Diagnostic Workup

## Staging Studies

- Primary Malignancy
  - XR entire bone
  - Chest XR
  - MRI w contrast whole bone
  - CT chest wo contrast
  - WBBS
- Secondary Malignancy
  - As above +
  - Labs – CBC/CMP, SPEP/UPEP, TSH, PSA
  - CT A/P



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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## 3 BUCKETS

- Observation
- Intralesional resection +/- stabilization
- Wide (negative margin) resection +/- reconstruction





# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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## 3 BUCKETS

- Observation = Benign, asymptomatic or self limiting
- Intralesional resection +/- stabilization = Benign, symptomatic, locally aggressive
- Wide (negative margin) resection +/- reconstruction = Malignant (sarcoma)



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

---

## 3 BUCKETS

- **Observation** = Benign, asymptomatic or self limiting
  - Nonossifying fibroma (NOF), Enchondroma
- Intralesional resection +/- stabilization = Benign, symptomatic, locally aggressive
- Wide (negative margin) resection +/- reconstruction = Malignant (sarcoma)



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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17M with mild leg pain



Dx: non ossifying  
fibroma



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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## 3 BUCKETS

- Observation = Benign, asymptomatic or self limiting
  - Nonossifying fibroma (NOF), Enchondroma
- Intralesional resection +/- stabilization = Benign, symptomatic and/or locally aggressive
  - Giant Cell Tumor of Bone (GCT), Aneurysmal bone cyst (ABC), Low grade chondrosarcoma, Metastatic disease
- Wide (negative margin) resection +/- reconstruction = Malignant (sarcoma)



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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15F with weightbearing R  
ankle pain



Dx: chondroblastoma



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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15F with weightbearing R  
ankle pain



Dx: chondroblastoma



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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59F with persistent R upper arm pain



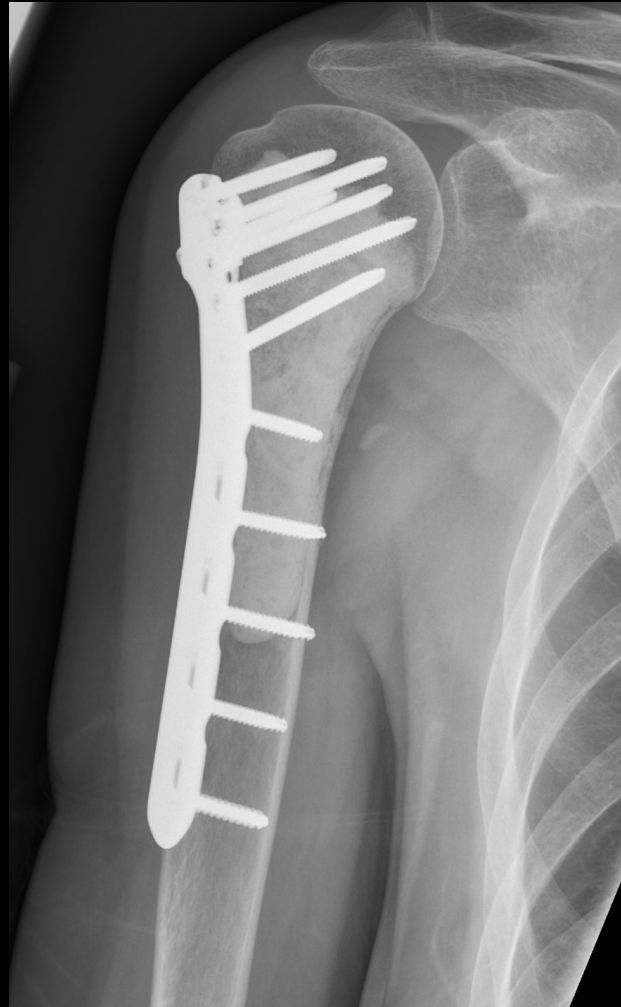
Dx: low grade chondrosarcoma



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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59F with persistent R upper arm pain



Dx: low grade  
chondrosarcoma





# Bone Tumors – Treatment

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## 3 BUCKETS

- Observation = Benign, asymptomatic or self limiting
  - Nonossifying fibroma (NOF), Enchondroma
- Intralesional resection +/- stabilization = Benign, symptomatic and/or locally aggressive
  - Giant Cell Tumor of Bone (GCT), Aneurysmal bone cyst (ABC), Low grade chondrosarcoma, Metastatic disease
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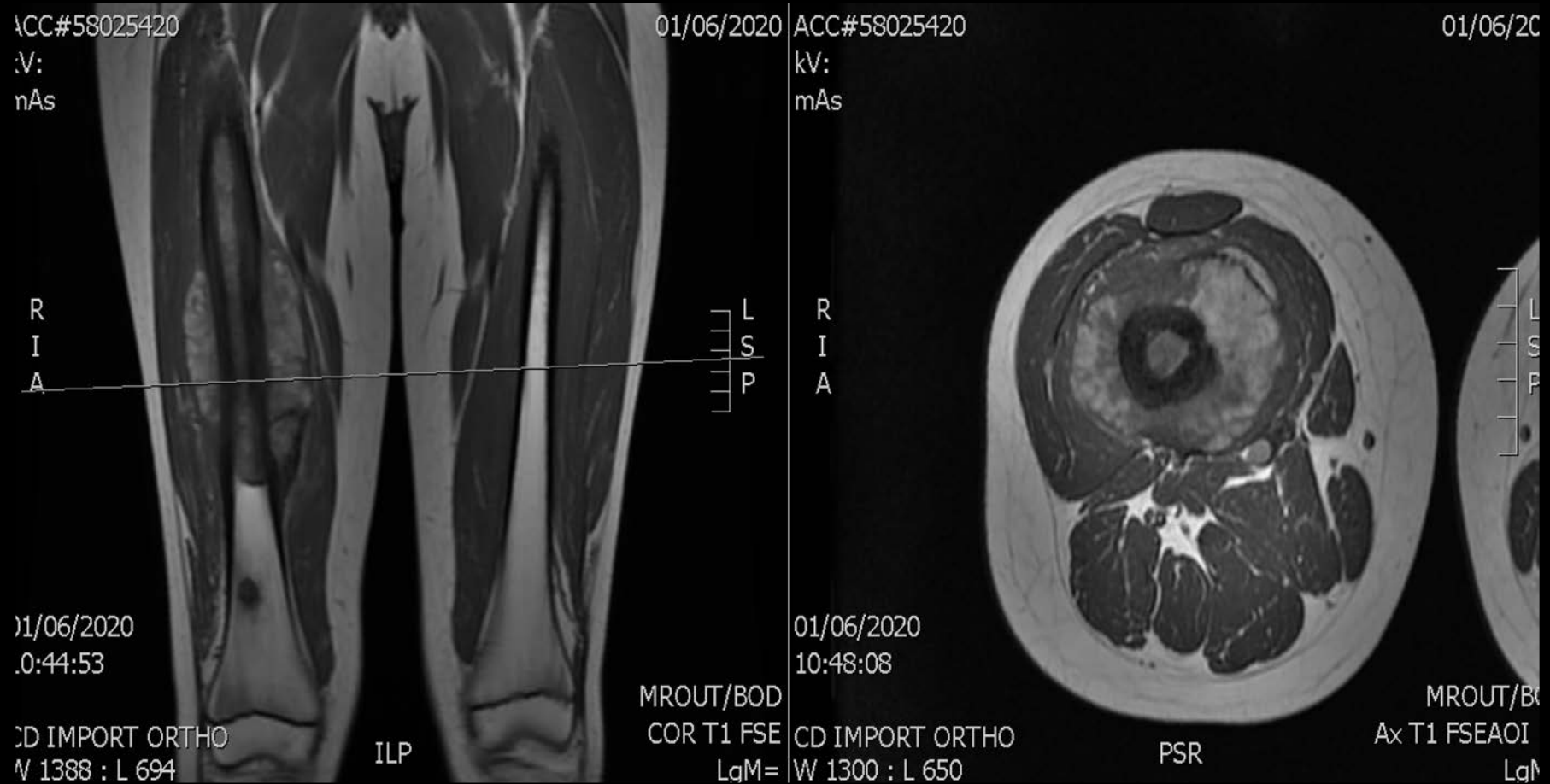


# Bone Tumors – Treatment

12M football player with two months thigh swelling and pain

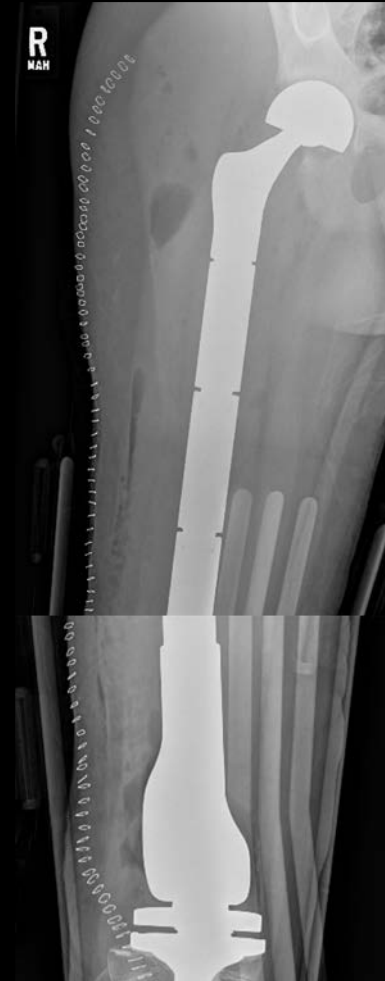


# Bone Tumors – Treatment



# Bone Tumors – Treatment

Underwent total femur resection with total femur growing prosthesis reconstruction



Dx: osteosarcoma



# Bone Tumors – Treatment – Adjuvant Therapy

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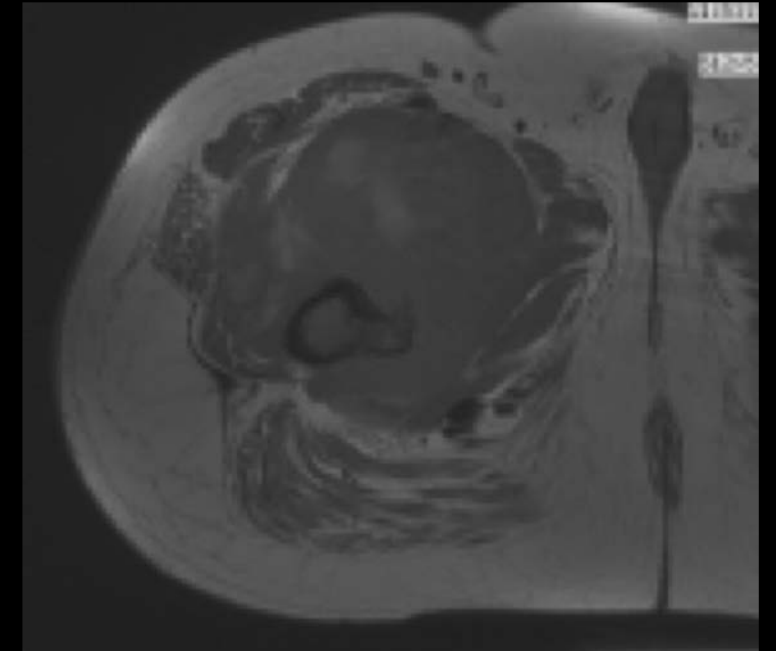
- **Local adjuvants** are often used for intralesional resections – High speed burr, peroxide, argon laser
- Pre and post operative **chemotherapy** is standard of care for primary bone sarcomas except for chondrosarcoma, chordoma, low grade osteosarcoma
- **Radiation**
  - Metastatic disease
  - Soft Tissue Sarcoma
  - Unresectable bone sarcomas, especially Ewing's



# Top 4 Malignant Bone Tumors

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- Osteosarcoma
- Ewing Sarcoma
- Chondrosarcoma
- Metastatic Disease



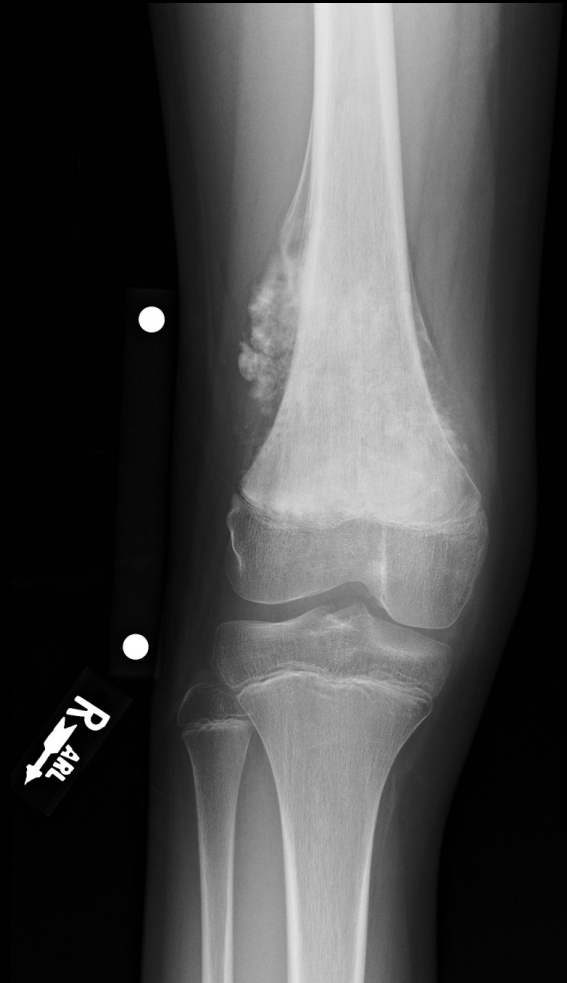
Dx: lymphoma



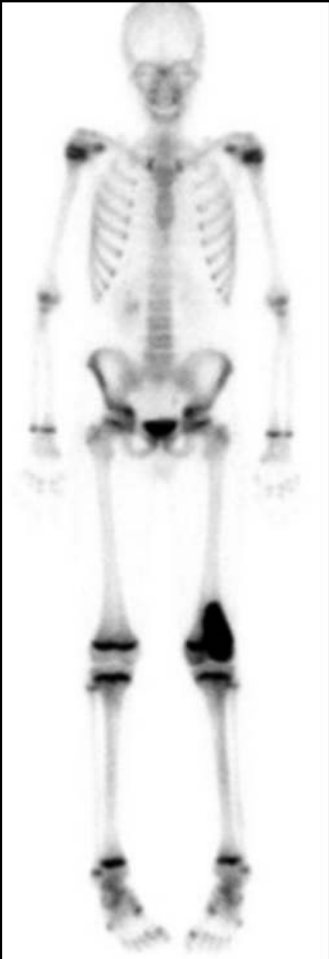
# Osteosarcoma

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- Most common primary bone sarcoma
- Bimodal: adolescent and elderly
- Metaphyseal
- 50% around the knee
- Bone forming tumor; bright/sclerotic appearance on xray
- Tx: Chemo (2 cycles) + Surgery + Chemo (4 cycles); 7-8 months treatment



# Osteosarcoma





# Ewing Sarcoma

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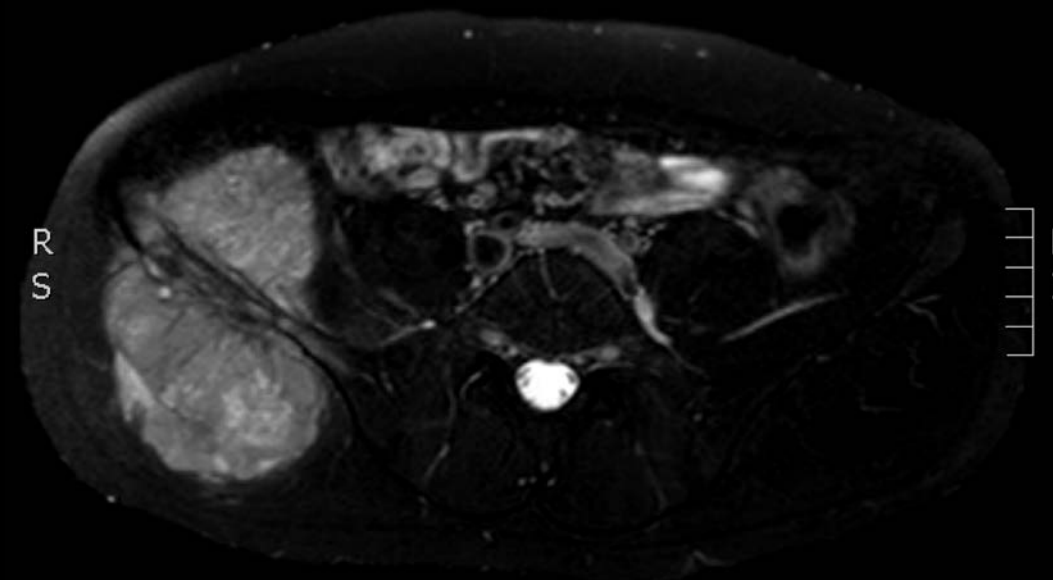
- 3<sup>rd</sup> most common primary bone sarcoma (2<sup>nd</sup> most common in children)
- Age 5-30
- Diaphyseal
- Often subtle xray findings and very large soft tissue mass
- Can present with fever, chills, weight loss, elevated ESR/CRP (can mimic an infection!)
- Tx: Chemo (6 cycles) + Surgery + Chemo (8 cycles); 7-8 months treatment



# Ewing Sarcoma



kV:  
mAs

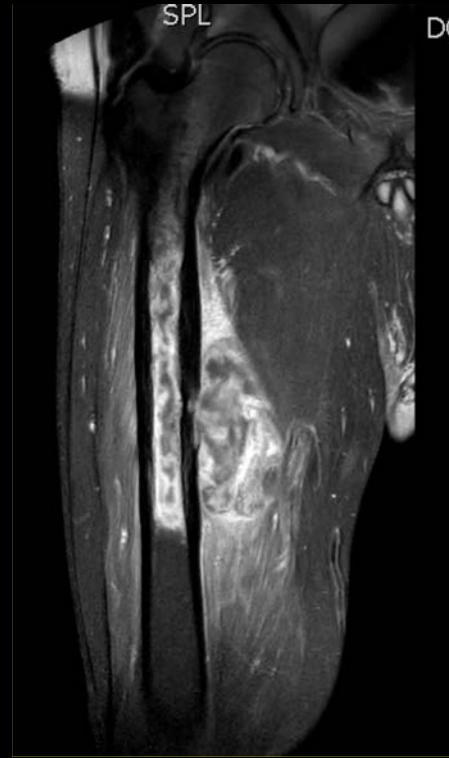


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# Chondrosarcoma

- 2<sup>nd</sup> most common primary bone sarcoma (most common in adults or >40 yrs)
- Cartilage forming tumor
  - Speckled calcifications, arcs/rings
- Tx: Surgery only (ex. mesenchymal and possibly dediff)



# Chondrosarcoma

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## Enchondroma



- Cartilage matrix
- No cortical disruption
- No expansile change
- No aggressive features
- Often NO pain

## Chondrosarcoma



- Cartilage matrix
- Cortical thinning
- Expansile change
- Aggressive features
- PAIN!



# Metastatic Disease

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- Most common malignant bone tumor
- Lytic/moth eaten on xray
- Lytic lesion >40 years old: Metastatic disease, Myeloma, Lymphoma! (then much less common is chondrosarcoma)
- Carcinoma or adenocarcinoma, not sarcoma
- 5 Most Common Sites of Origin
  - "BLT and a Kosher Pickle" – Breast, Lung, Thyroid, Kidney, Prostate



# Metastatic Disease

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- Just because someone has a history of cancer does not guarantee that is where the lesion is coming from!
- Must do full staging workup (MRI lesion, CT CAP to look for primary cancer, WBBS)
  - Must get a biopsy of bone lesion to prove it is metastatic carcinoma and not a sarcoma!



# Soft Tissue Tumors

- Clinical Presentation
- Imaging
- Diagnostic Workup
- Treatment



# Soft Tissue Tumors – Clinical Presentation

- Swelling, lump/bump, mass
- Typically painless (esp. soft tissue sarcomas)
- Rate of growth (10 yrs vs. 2 months)
- Soft, mobile, superficial = benign VS Firm, fixed, deep = malignant
- Warning signs (think sarcoma/malignant):
  - >5cm
  - Deep (immobile)
  - Rapidly enlarging
- Incidence: Benign >>>>> Malignant

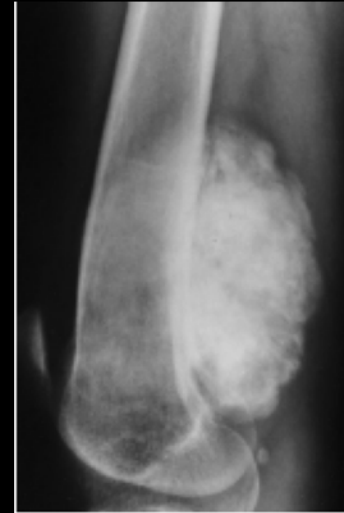




# Soft Tissue Tumors – Imaging

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- XR: limited diagnostic utility, but the right place to start
- MRI: best lesional and anatomic data
  - Size
  - Surrounding anatomy, i.e. proximity to vital structures
  - Internal characteristics
- CT: least helpful due to limited soft tissue data
- US: user dependent; size, proximity to vessels, solid vs cystic



# Soft Tissue Tumors – Diagnostic Workup

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- Due to the wide variety of soft tissue lesions, imaging is rarely if ever sufficient to make a firm diagnosis
  - Few exceptions:
    - Lipomas – isointense with fat on all sequences
    - Ganglion cysts – peripherally enhancing with direct continuity to joint
    - Myositis ossificans – progressive, smooth peripheral calcification pattern
    - Schwannoma – entering and exiting nerve
- Tissue is often required to make a definitive diagnosis
- Biopsy should ALWAYS be obtained by the surgeon and facility that will definitively treat the lesion



# Soft Tissue Tumors – Diagnostic Workup

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- Incomplete Excision “Whoops” Procedures: QUITE COMMON!
- Don’t just cut it out. There are consequences.



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

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- Lipoma
- Ganglion cyst
- Myositis ossificans
- Schwannoma
- Soft Tissue Sarcoma



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

45F with  
right hip  
mass slowly  
growing  
over 5 years



Dx: benign lipoma



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

35M with chronic  
medial knee pain and  
lump in back of knee



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors



Dx: Baker (ganglion) cyst



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

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16M with 1 month of thigh pain after getting hit playing football





# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

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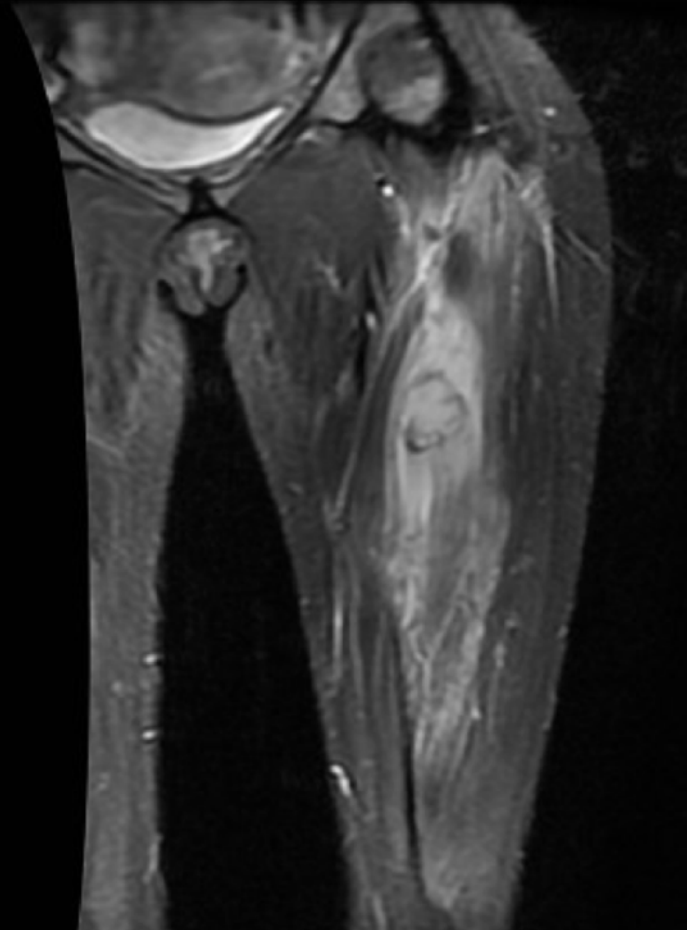
Look closer...



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

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Look closer...



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

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6 months goes by...  
lesion maturation



Dx: myositis  
ossificans



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

32F with posterior knee swelling, stiffness and shooting pains/numbness into foot



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors



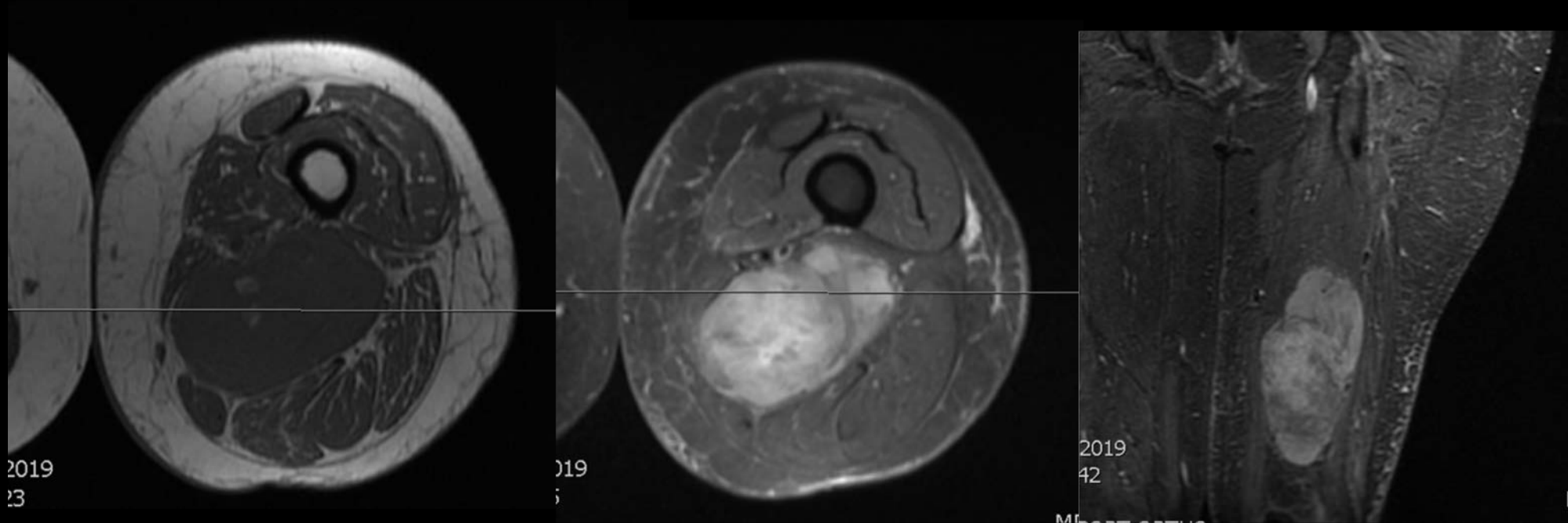
Dx: schwannoma



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

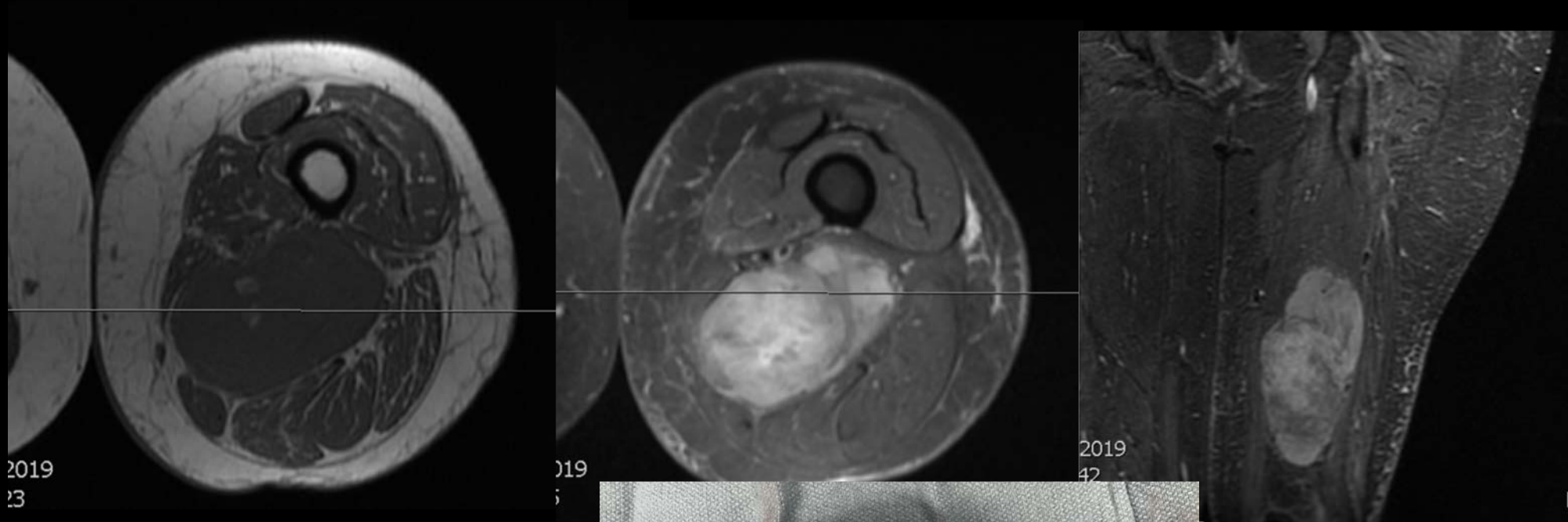
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72F thigh swelling;  
painless; getting  
bigger over few  
months



# Top 5 Soft Tissue Tumors

72F thigh swelling; painless; getting bigger over few months



Dx: soft tissue sarcoma



# Soft Tissue Tumors – Diagnostic Workup

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## Staging Studies

- Xray of involved body segment
- Chest xray
- MRI area of interest (wide enough for entire mass)
- CT chest wo contrast
- On occasion: PET/CT or whole body MRI





# Soft Tissue Tumors – Treatment

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## 3 BUCKETS

- **Observation** = Benign, asymptomatic or self limiting
- Marginal resection = Benign, symptomatic (lipoma, schwannoma)
- Wide (negative margin) resection +/- reconstruction = Malignant (sarcoma)



# Soft Tissue Tumors – Treatment

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## 3 BUCKETS

- Observation = Benign, asymptomatic or self limiting
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# Soft Tissue Tumors – Treatment

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## 3 BUCKETS

- Observation = Benign, asymptomatic or self limiting
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# Soft Tissue Tumors – Treatment

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- **Radiation** is a vital adjuvant therapy to decrease the risk for local recurrence, either pre or post operatively
- **Chemotherapy** is reserved for younger patients, sensitive subtypes or metastatic disease



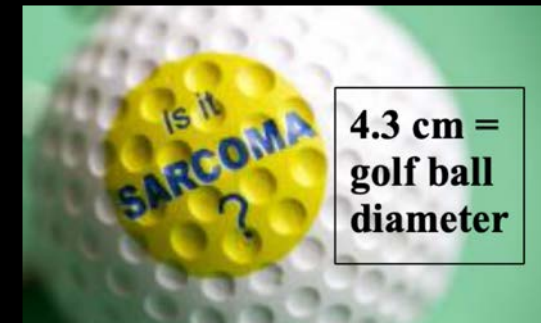
# Take Home Points

## Bone Tumors

- Bone malignancy, typically painful
- Sarcomas = Children/adolescents
- Metastatic disease/lymphoma/myeloma = Adults
- Xray entire bone, and be critical of images
- If pain is not explained by xrays   OR  
xrays are concerning => obtain MRI wwo contrast

## Soft Tissue Tumors

- Soft tissue malignancy, typically painless
- Adults
- Start with xrays
- Soft tissue tumor that is...
  - Deep
  - Growing
  - Larger than golf ball
  - ✓ Think sarcoma



- Make a diagnosis before initiating treatment!
- Refer to Ortho Oncology Center. Let them do the biopsy.
- Never hesitate to call or email your regional orthopaedic oncologist.



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Questions? Email me.  
[Joshua.Lawrenz@vumc.org](mailto:Joshua.Lawrenz@vumc.org)



Thank you

