

# CLINICAL REFERRAL GUIDELINES FOR ADULT PERSONAL DOCTORS

## BONE AND SOFT TISSUE SARCOMA

### BONE SARCOMA

**EXTREMELY URGENT** direct access to X-ray for children, adolescents and young adults with unexplained swelling or bone pain.

**VERY URGENT referral (within 48 hours):** Children, adolescents and young adults with X-rays showing suspected bone sarcoma.

**URGENT referral (within 2 weeks):** adults with X-rays showing suspected bone sarcoma.

### SOFT TISSUE SARCOMA

**EXTREMELY URGENT** direct access to ultrasound (within 48 hours) for children and young people with unexplained soft tissue masses that are increasing in size.

**VERY URGENT** access to ultrasound (within 2 weeks for adults with unexplained soft tissue masses that are increasing in size.

**VERY URGENT referral to an Orthopedic or General Surgeon (within 48 hours):** Children, adolescents and young adults with:

- Ultrasound findings suggestive of soft tissue sarcoma
- unclear ultrasound findings and clinical suspicion of soft tissue sarcoma

**URGENT referral to an Orthopedic or General Surgeon (within 2 weeks):** Adults with:

- Ultrasound findings suggestive of soft tissue sarcoma
- unclear ultrasound findings and clinical suspicion of soft tissue sarcoma

**NOTE 1:** In cases where immediate referral for imaging (e.g. ultrasound, CT) is recommended, referral depends on the referral capacity of the GP. Where this is not possible, referral to a specialist for imaging tests is recommended.

**NOTE 2:**

1. For patients diagnosed with cancer undergoing oncological treatment or follow-up, communication with the treating oncologist is recommended.
2. Patients undergoing oncological treatment or follow-up (at least one visit to the oncologist within 8 months) have the right to direct access to the treating oncologist.

## Bibliography:

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1. Rapid Referral Guidelines for Suspected Cancer. A NICE-endorsed summary of the guidelines for suspected cancer (NG12). MacMillan Cancer Support.  
<https://www.macmillan.org.uk/healthcare-professionals/cancer-pathways/prevention-and-diagnosis/rapid-referral-guidelines>