



University of Michigan
C.S. Mott Children's Hospital

Solid Tumor Oncology Program

Ewing Sarcoma

Ewing Sarcoma – is a cancer that occurs either in the bone or soft tissue. While it can occur anywhere in the body it is most associated with the long bones such as femur (thigh), tibia (shin) or humerus (upper arm). It most often appears during the adolescent and teen years when bones are quickly growing and can spread to other areas of the body including the lungs (most common), bone marrow, other bones and other soft tissues.

Symptoms may include:

- Pain at the site of the tumor
- Swelling and/or redness around the site of the tumor
- Broken bone from a minor injury or no injury (when tumor present at the site)
- Fever
- Weight loss, decreased appetite
- Paralysis and/or incontinence (if the tumor is in the spinal region)
- Symptoms related to nerve compression from tumor (e.g. numbness, tingling, paralysis, etc.)

Diagnosis

Diagnosis of Ewing's sarcoma begins with a thorough health history and a comprehensive physical examination. Some testing will be required and may include blood work, an x-ray, a CT scan, an MRI, PET scan and a bone scan. A biopsy to confirm the diagnosis is performed by removing a small piece of tissue from the tumor for examination under a microscope. A bone marrow biopsy will also be required to determine if the cancer has spread to the bone marrow.

If Ewing's sarcoma is the diagnosis, your doctor will stage the tumor, which determines if and how far the cancer has spread. Staging the tumor will help determine a treatment plan.

Treatment

Treatment options include:

- surgery to remove the tumor
- chemotherapy
- radiation
- supportive Care medications (to control pain, nausea and infections)
- continuous follow-up care (to determine response to treatment, detect any recurrent disease and manage late effects of treatment)