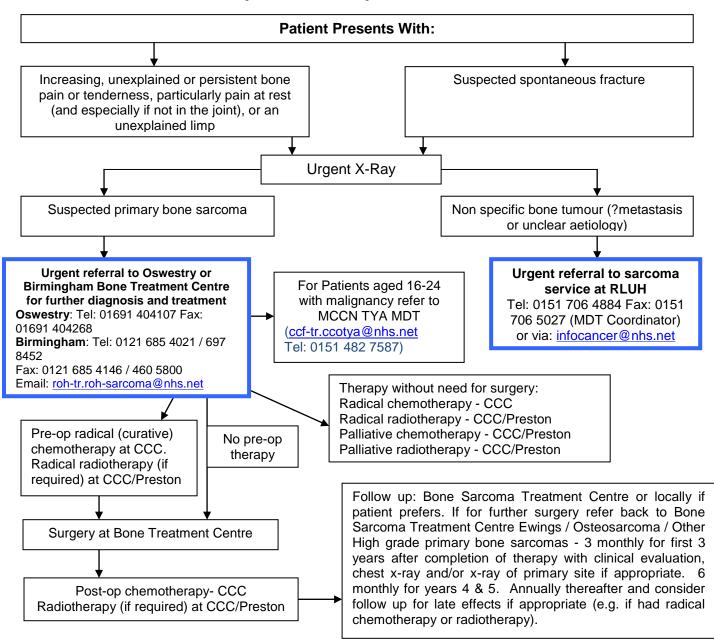


Greater Manchester, Lancashire and South Cumbria Strategic Clinical Networks



An algorithm¹ summarising the principal recommendations on how to proceed when a patient presents with symptoms of bone cancer

Pathway for Extremity Limb Bone Sarcoma



National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence: Referral guidelines for suspected cancer - Clinical Guideline 27 (issued June, 2005)

Definitions:

<u>Urgent'</u>: The patient is seen within the national target for urgent referrals (currently 2 weeks)

- *Persistent':* in line with NICE guidance definition, the continuation of specified symptoms and/or signs beyond a period that would normally be associated with self-limiting problems. The precise period will vary depending on the severity of symptoms and associated features, as assessed by the healthcare professional. In many cases, the upper limit the professional will permit symptoms and/or signs to persist before initiating referral will be 4–6 weeks.
- <u>'Unexplained'</u>:Refers to a symptom(s) and/or sign(s) that has not led to a diagnosis being made by the primary care professional after initial assessment of the history, examination and primary care investigations (if any).

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