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## **Osteosarcoma - Childhood - Symptoms and Signs [1]**

**This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board](#) [2], 11/2015**

**ON THIS PAGE:** You will find out more about body changes and other things that can signal a problem that may need medical care. To see other pages, use the menu on the side of your screen.

The symptoms of osteosarcoma depend on the bone in which the tumor developed. Children and teens with osteosarcoma may experience the following symptoms or signs. Sometimes, people with osteosarcoma do not show any of these symptoms. Or, these symptoms may be caused by a medical condition that is not cancer.

- Pain in a bone or joint that gets worse over time, especially if the pain interferes with sleep
- Painless swelling
- A noticeable mass or lump in an arm or leg
- A broken bone with no injury to explain how it occurred
- Stiffness or swelling of joints. This is not a common symptom.
- Back pain or a loss of bowel or bladder control. These can occur if the tumor is in the pelvis

or at the base of the spine. They are uncommon early symptoms.

If you are concerned about one or more of the symptoms or signs on this list, please talk with your child's doctor. Your doctor will ask how long and how often your child has been experiencing the symptom(s), in addition to other questions. This is to help find out the cause of the problem, called a [diagnosis](#) [3].

If cancer is diagnosed, relieving symptoms remains an important part of cancer care and treatment. This may also be called symptom management, palliative care, or supportive care. Be sure to talk with your child's health care team about symptoms your child experiences, including any new symptoms or a change in symptoms.

*The [next section in this guide is Diagnosis](#) [3] and it explains what tests may be needed to learn more about the cause of the symptoms. Or, use the menu on the side of your screen to choose another section to continue reading this guide.*

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#### **Links**

[1] <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/osteosarcoma-childhood/symptoms-and-signs>

[2] <http://www.cancer.net/about-us>

[3] <http://www.cancer.net/node/19472>