

Sarcoma. Definition

Sarcoma is a heterogenous group of rare malignant neoplasms arising from mesenchymal cells



- Altogether rare (<6 / 100,000 / year)
 <1% of all malignancies in adults, 15% of pediatric cancers

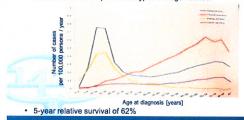
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Sarcoma. Tissue of origin Soft tissue sarcoma ~90% Bone sarcoma ~10% Blood vessels

Epidemiology. Soft tissue sarcoma* (1) Incidence 4-5 cases / 100,000 / year Slight male predominance Anatomical site distribution 10% retroperitoneum 10% trunk wall 75% extremities (mainly tight) 80% deep-seated (median Ø 9 cm) 30% superficial (median Ø 5 cm)	
Epidemiology. Soft tissue sarcoma* (2) 110+ subtypes, most common: undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma (UPS) liposarcoma (LPS) leiomyosarcoma (LMS) myxofibrosarcoma (MFS) synovial sarcoma (SynSa) malignant peripherial nerve sheath tumours (MPNST) Median age at diagnosis 65 years, with variable age-related incidence: exclusively in children: embryonal rhabdomyosarcoma mainly in young adults: SynSa elderly: UPS, LPS, LMS, MFS 5-year relative survival 58% - ~10% of patients present with metastasis at diagnosis (mainly in the lungs), 1/3 die from tumor-related disease, mainly lung metastases NU LEUVEN Metastasis of the force 2011 (1816 49) LEUVEN Metastasis of the force 2011 (1816 49) Reference (1817)	
Epidemiology. Gastrointestinal stromal tumour (GIST) Incidence 1 / 100,000 / year (clinically relevant GIST) → much higher when including microGIST (< 1cm) Slight prevalence in males Median age 60-65 years → paediatric GIST represents a distinct subset Localisation: entire length of the digestive tract, 50% in stomach 5-year relative survival of 68%	

Epidemiology. Bone sarcoma (1)

- Incidence: 0.75 case / 100,000 / year
 Incidence rates of specific subtypes are age-related:



Epidemiology. Bone sarcoma (2)

	Osteosarcoma	Chondrosarcoma	Ewing's sarcoma
Incidence (per 100,00/year)	overall 0.3	0.2	0.3
	0.8 - 1.1 at age 15-19y		
Median age (years)	(bimodal distribution)	30 - 60	15
Male to female ratio	1.4:1	~1:1	1.5:1
Primary sites	extremity (younger patient)	pelvis, proximal femur,	extremity bones (50%),
	proportion of axial tumor	ribs, humerus, tibia, and	pelvis, ribs, vertebra
	increases with age	scapula	
Remarks	frequently associated with		
	germine syndromes		

Etiology of sarcoma

- Sporadic >> genetic
 Cause mostly unknown
- Risk factors:
 - Environmental

 - radiation exposure (e.g. prior radiation therapy)
 chemical carcinogens (e.g. dioxins in herbicides)
 - Host-related

 - genetic factors
 viral infection and immunodeficiency (HHV8, EBV infection)
 trauma, chronic inflammation

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6fVE - Human herpesvirus 8	****

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