

Evidence Discussion: Lesion of Bone (MS-10.2)

- After a relevant history and physical exam that does not define the etiology of a bone tumor, plain radiographs are indicated. Plain radiography of the entire bone containing the lesion is necessary because many benign bone tumors have a characteristic appearance on plain x-ray and the risks of advanced imaging would be unnecessary. If plain imaging is equivocal, it may still direct initial imaging to the correct modality. Furthermore, plain x-ray may provide complementary information to advanced imaging allowing a better interpretation.
- If diagnostic uncertainty remains, concerns for malignant degeneration exist, or imaging is requested for surgical planning, advanced imaging is indicated.
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a superior modality for evaluation of many bone tumors but Computed Tomography (CT) is appropriate for contra-indications to MRI.

References:

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