National Comprehensive Cancer Network®

NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®)

Bone Cancer

NCCN Evidence Blocks™

Version 1.2020 — September 12, 2019

NCCN.org

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ф Diagnostic/Interventional radiology
‡ Hematology/Hematologic oncology
Þ Internal Medicine
† Medical oncology
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≠ Pathology
€ Pediatric oncology
§ Radiotherapy/Radiation oncology
¶ Surgery/Surgical oncology
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Clinical Trials: NCCN believes that the best management for any patient with cancer is in a clinical trial. Participation in clinical trials is especially encouraged.

To find clinical trials online at NCCN Member Institutions, click here: nccn.org/clinical_trials/clinicians.aspx.

NCCN Categories of Evidence and Consensus: All recommendations are category 2A unless otherwise indicated.

See NCCN Categories of Evidence and Consensus.

NCCN Categories of Preference: All recommendations are considered appropriate.

See NCCN Categories of Preference.

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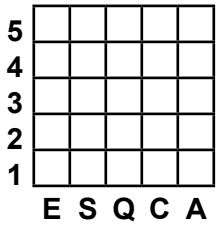
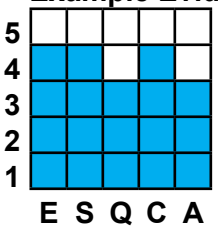
NCCN EVIDENCE BLOCKS CATEGORIES AND DEFINITIONS



E = Efficacy of Regimen/Agent
S = Safety of Regimen/Agent
Q = Quality of Evidence
C = Consistency of Evidence
A = Affordability of Regimen/Agent

Example Evidence Block



E = 4
S = 4
Q = 3
C = 4
A = 3

Efficacy of Regimen/Agent

5	**Highly effective:** Cure likely and often provides long-term survival advantage
4	**Very effective:** Cure unlikely but sometimes provides long-term survival advantage
3	**Moderately effective:** Modest impact on survival, but often provides control of disease
2	**Minimally effective:** No, or unknown impact on survival, but sometimes provides control of disease
1	**Palliative:** Provides symptomatic benefit only

Safety of Regimen/Agent

5	**Usually no meaningful toxicity:** Uncommon or minimal toxicities; no interference with activities of daily living (ADLs)
4	**Occasionally toxic:** Rare significant toxicities or low-grade toxicities only; little interference with ADLs
3	**Mildly toxic:** Mild toxicity that interferes with ADLs
2	**Moderately toxic:** Significant toxicities often occur but life threatening/fatal toxicity is uncommon; interference with ADLs is frequent
1	**Highly toxic:** Significant toxicities or life threatening/fatal toxicity occurs often; interference with ADLs is usual and severe

Note: For significant chronic or long-term toxicities, score decreased by 1

Quality of Evidence

5	**High quality:** Multiple well-designed randomized trials and/or meta-analyses
4	**Good quality:** One or more well-designed randomized trials
3	**Average quality:** Low quality randomized trial(s) or well-designed non-randomized trial(s)
2	**Low quality:** Case reports or extensive clinical experience
1	**Poor quality:** Little or no evidence

Consistency of Evidence

5	**Highly consistent:** Multiple trials with similar outcomes
4	**Mainly consistent:** Multiple trials with some variability in outcome
3	**May be consistent:** Few trials or only trials with few patients, whether randomized or not, with some variability in outcome
2	**Inconsistent:** Meaningful differences in direction of outcome between quality trials
1	**Anecdotal evidence only:** Evidence in humans based upon anecdotal experience

Affordability of Regimen/Agent (includes drug cost, supportive care, infusions, toxicity monitoring, management of toxicity)

5	**Very inexpensive**
4	**Inexpensive**
3	**Moderately expensive**
2	**Expensive**
1	**Very expensive**

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Primary bone tumors and selected metastatic tumors should be evaluated and treated by a multidisciplinary team with expertise in the management of these tumors. The team should meet on a regular basis and should include:

Core Group
- **Orthopaedic oncologist**
- **Bone pathologist**
- **Medical/pediatric oncologist**
- **Radiation oncologist**
- **Musculoskeletal radiologist**

Specialists Critical in Certain Cases
- **Thoracic surgeon**
- **Plastic surgeon**
- **Interventional radiologist**
- **Physiatrist**
- **Vascular/general surgeon**
- **Neurosurgeon/orthopaedic spine surgeon**
- **Additional surgical subspecialties as clinically indicated**

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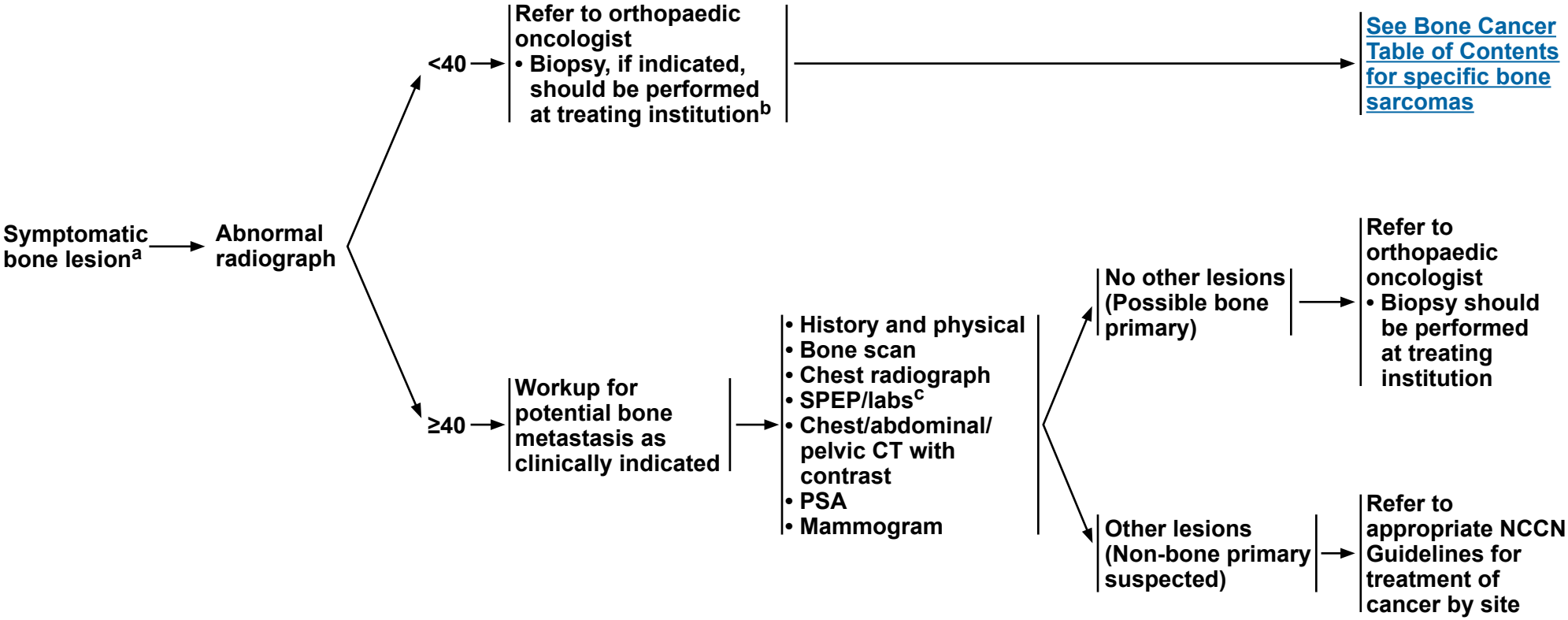
WORKUP



[a] See Multidisciplinary Team (TEAM-1).
[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[c] Labs include CBC and comprehensive metabolic panel (CMP) with calcium to assess for hypercalcemia.

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PRESENTATION[a,b,c]

Low grade and Intracompartmental → See CHON-2

High grade (grade II, grade III) or Clear cell or Extracompartmental → See CHON-3

Metastatic disease at presentation → See CHON-4

Dedifferentiated → **Treat as osteosarcoma (category 2B)**
See NCCN Guidelines for Osteosarcoma (OSTEO-1)

Mesenchymal → **Treat as Ewing sarcoma (category 2B)**
See NCCN Guidelines for Ewing Sarcoma (EW-1)

[a] See Multidisciplinary Team (TEAM-1).
[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[c] There is considerable controversy regarding the grading of chondrosarcoma. In addition to histology, radiologic features, size, and location of tumors should also be considered in deciding local treatment.

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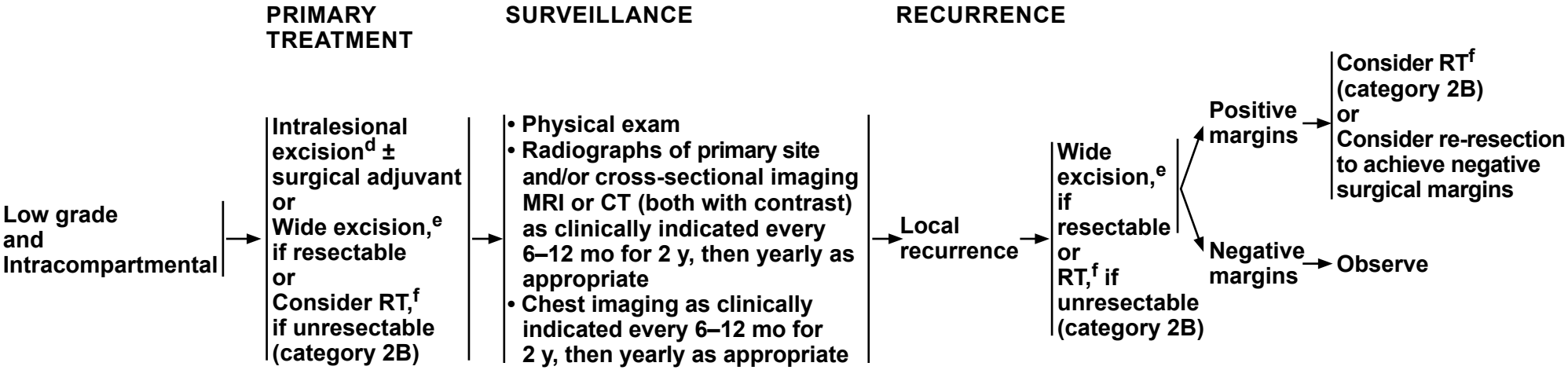

[d]This management should be restricted to extremity tumors (not pelvic tumors).
[e]Wide excision should provide histologically negative surgical margins. This may be achieved by either limb-sparing resection or limb amputation.
[f]See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).

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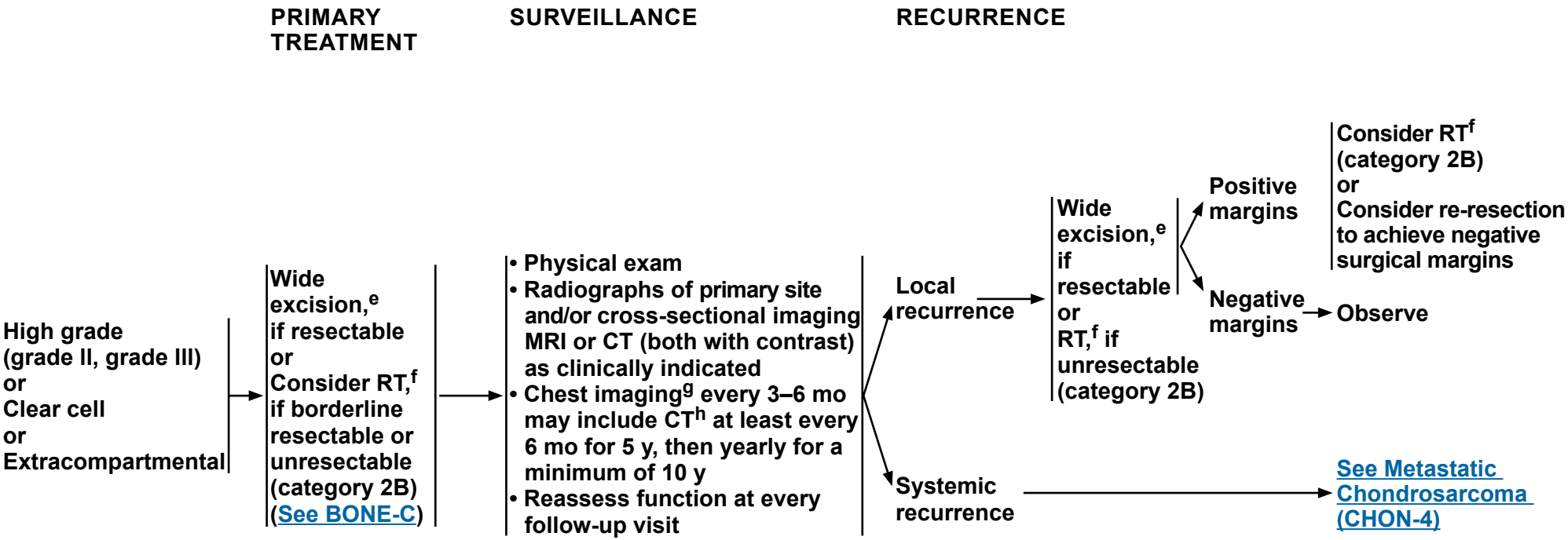

[e]Wide excision should provide histologically negative surgical margins. This may be achieved by either limb-sparing resection or limb amputation.
[f]See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).
[g]Based on physician's concern for risk of recurrence.
[h]Chest CT with or without contrast as clinically indicated.

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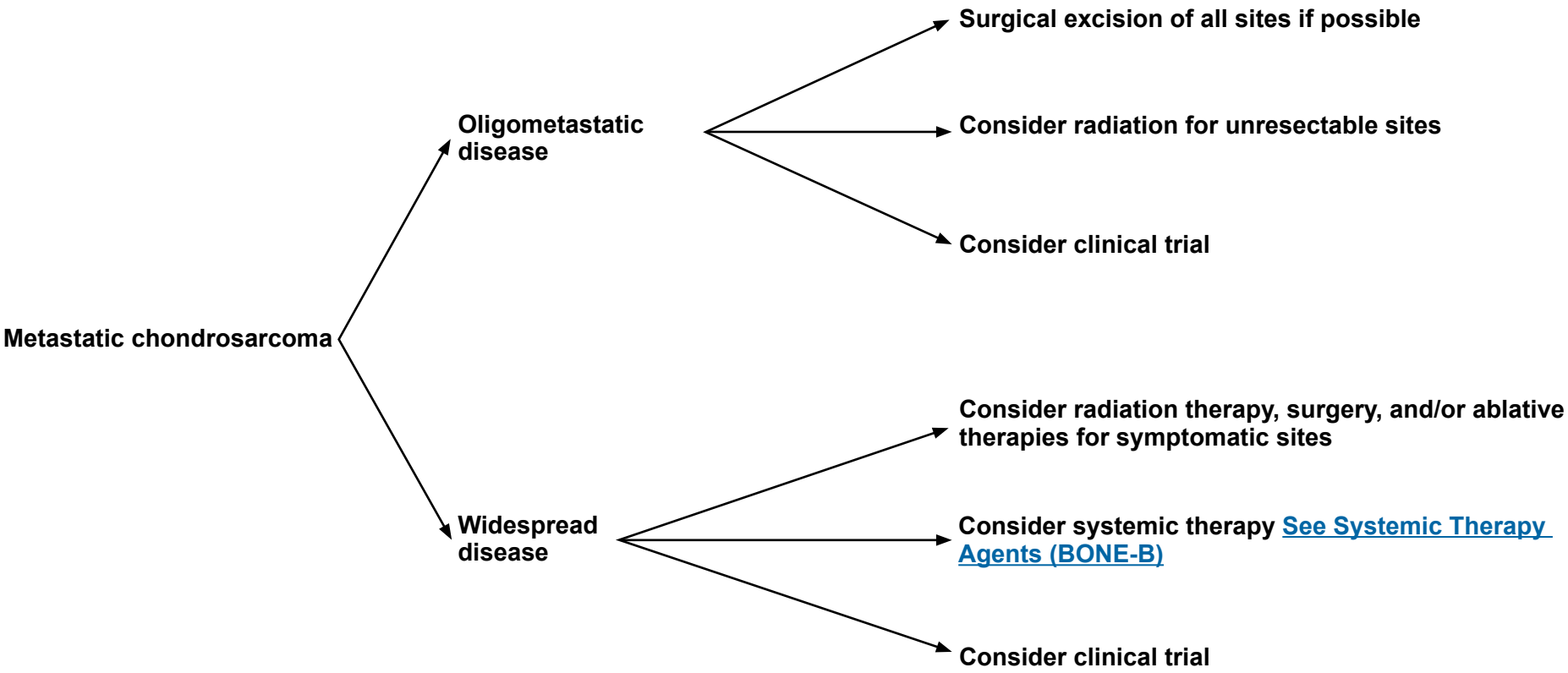
METASTATIC CHONDROSARCOMA

Dedifferentiated See OSTEO-1
Mesenchymal See EW-1



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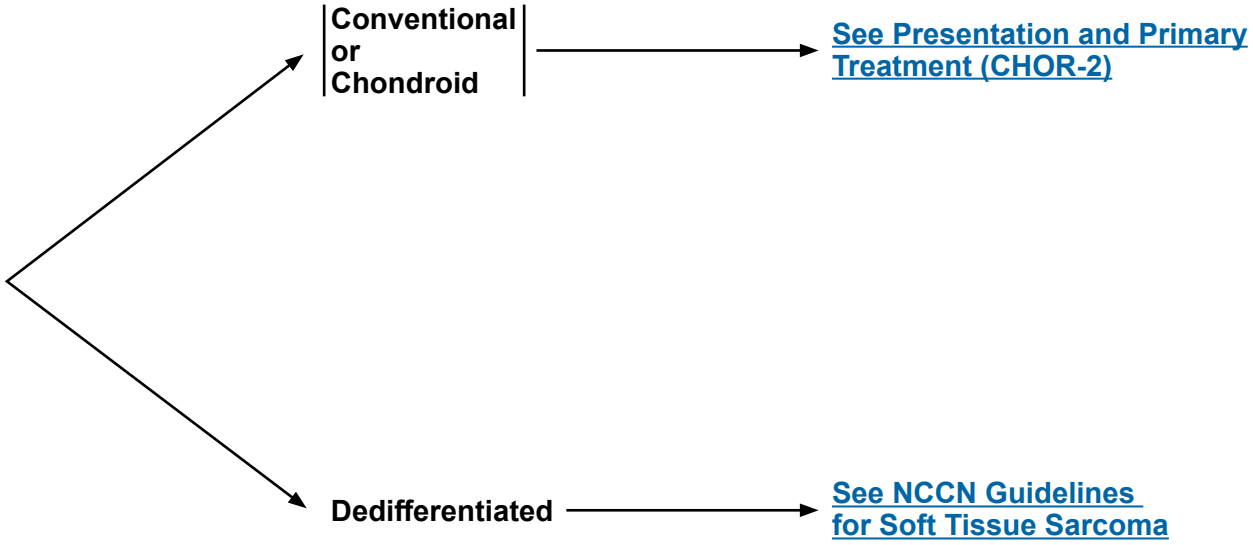
WORKUP[a,b]

- All patients should be evaluated and treated by a multidisciplinary team with expertise in the management of chordoma[a]
- History and physical
- Adequate imaging of primary site (eg, x-ray, CT +/- MRI) and screening MRI of spinal axis (CT/MRI with contrast)
- Chest/abdominal/pelvic CT with contrast
- Consider PET/CT (skull base to mid-thigh)
- Consider bone scan if PET/CT is negative

HISTOLOGIC SUBTYPE



[a]See Multidisciplinary Team (TEAM-1).

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Chordoma
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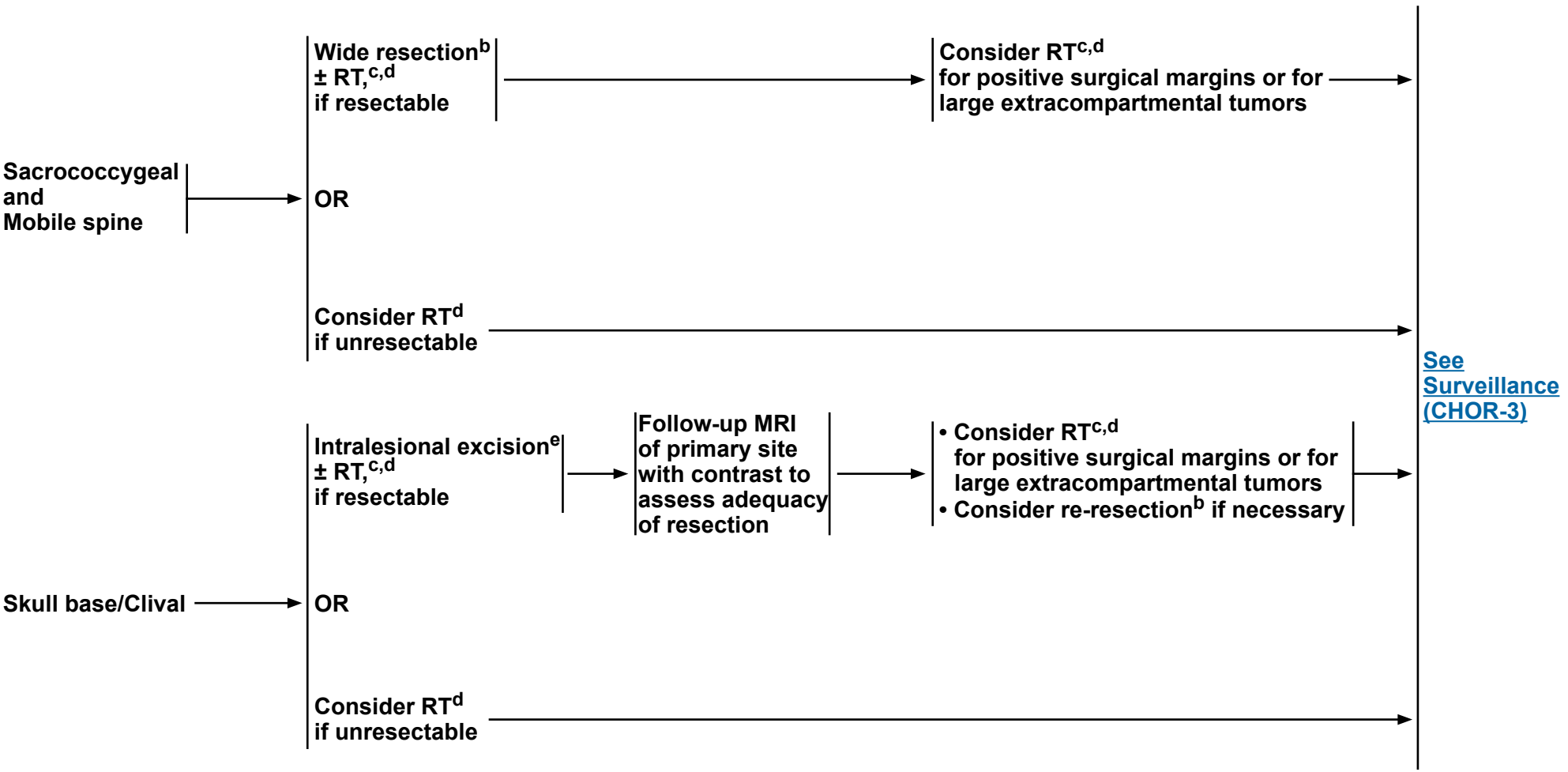

[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[c] Radiation therapy may be given preoperatively, intraoperatively, and/or postoperatively.
[d] See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).
[e] Maximal safe resection. Maximal tumor removal is recommended when appropriate.

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SURVEILLANCE

- **Physical exam**
- **Imaging of surgical site, timing, and modality, as clinically indicated (eg, x-ray, CT with contrast +/- MRI with contrast) for up to 10 y**
- **Chest imaging[f] every 6 mo may include CT annually for 5 y, then annually thereafter**

RECURRENCE

Local recurrence → **Surgical excision[b] and/or RT[d] and/or Systemic therapy[g]**

Metastatic recurrence → **Systemic therapy[g] and/or Surgical excision[b] and/or RT[d] and/or Best supportive care**

TREATMENT

[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[d] See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).
[f] Chest CT with or without contrast as clinically indicated.
[g] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).

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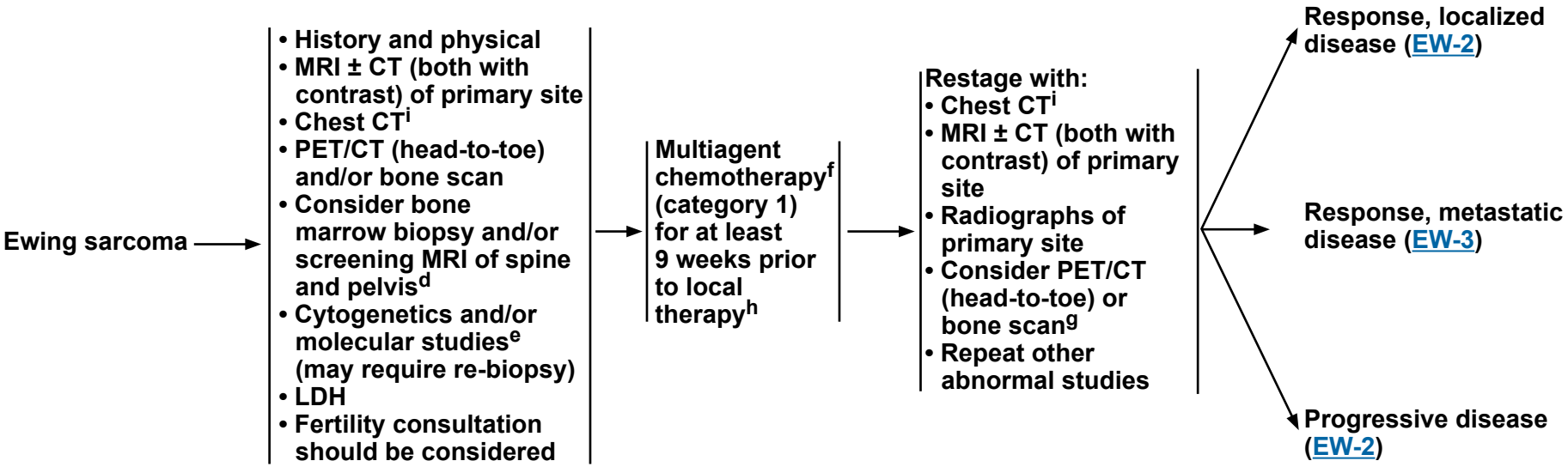

[a] See Multidisciplinary Team (TEAM-1).
[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[c] Ewing sarcoma can be treated using this algorithm, including primitive neuroectodermal tumor of bone, Askin's tumor, and extraosseous Ewing sarcoma.
[d] Kopp L, Hu C, Rozo B, et al. Utility of bone marrow aspiration and biopsy in initial staging of Ewing sarcoma. Pediatr Blood Cancer 2015;62:12-15.
[e] 90% of Ewing sarcoma will have one of four specific cytogenetic translocations.
[f] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[g] Use the same imaging technique that was performed in the initial workup.
[h] Longer treatment prior to local control therapy can be considered in patients with metastatic disease based on response.
[i] Chest CT with or without contrast as clinically indicated.

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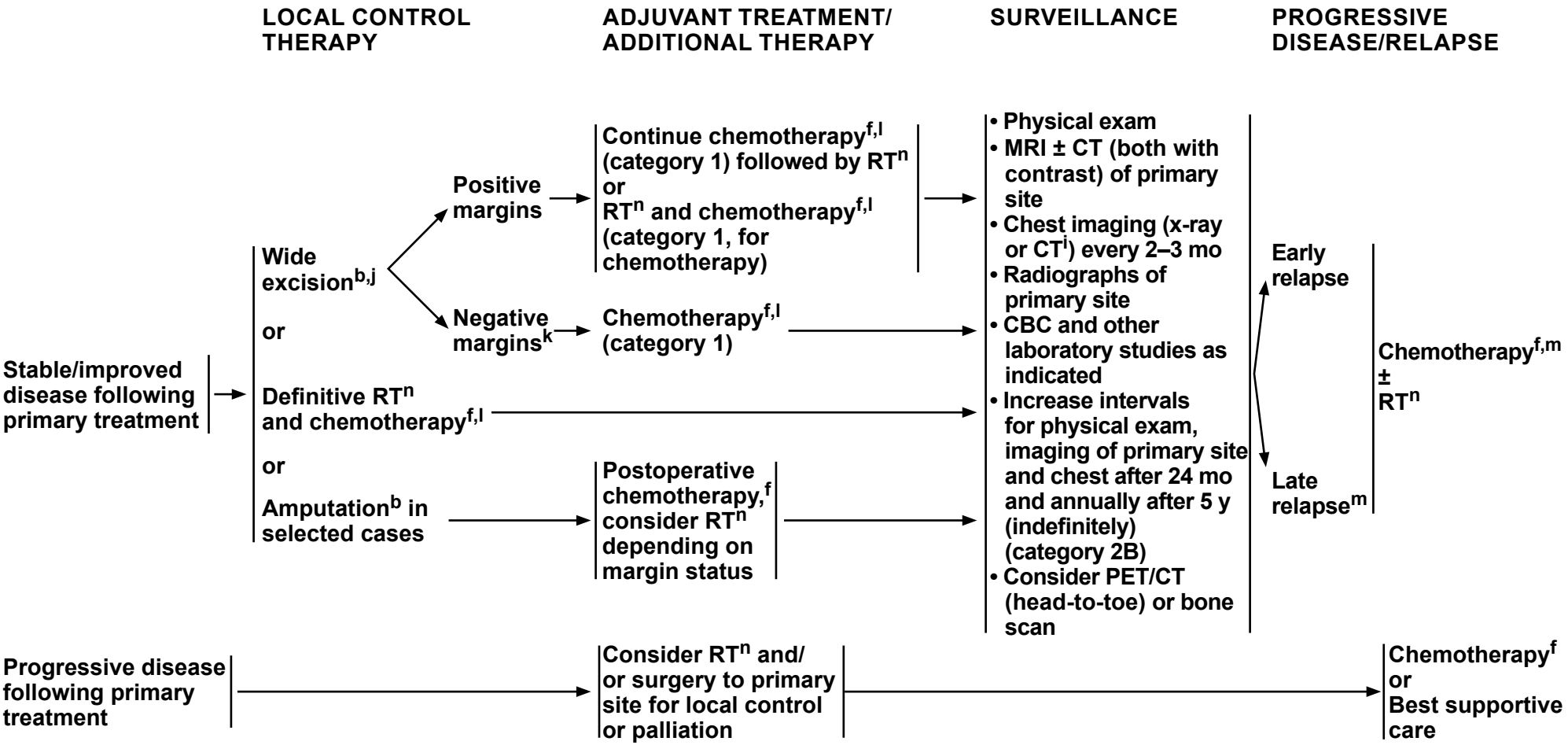

[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[f] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[i] Chest CT with or without contrast as clinically indicated.
[j] Consider preoperative RT for marginally resectable lesions.
[k] RT may be considered for close margins.
[l] There is category 1 evidence for between 28 and 49 weeks of chemotherapy depending on the chemotherapy and dosing schedule used.
[m] For late relapse, consider re-treatment with previously effective regimen.
[n] See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).

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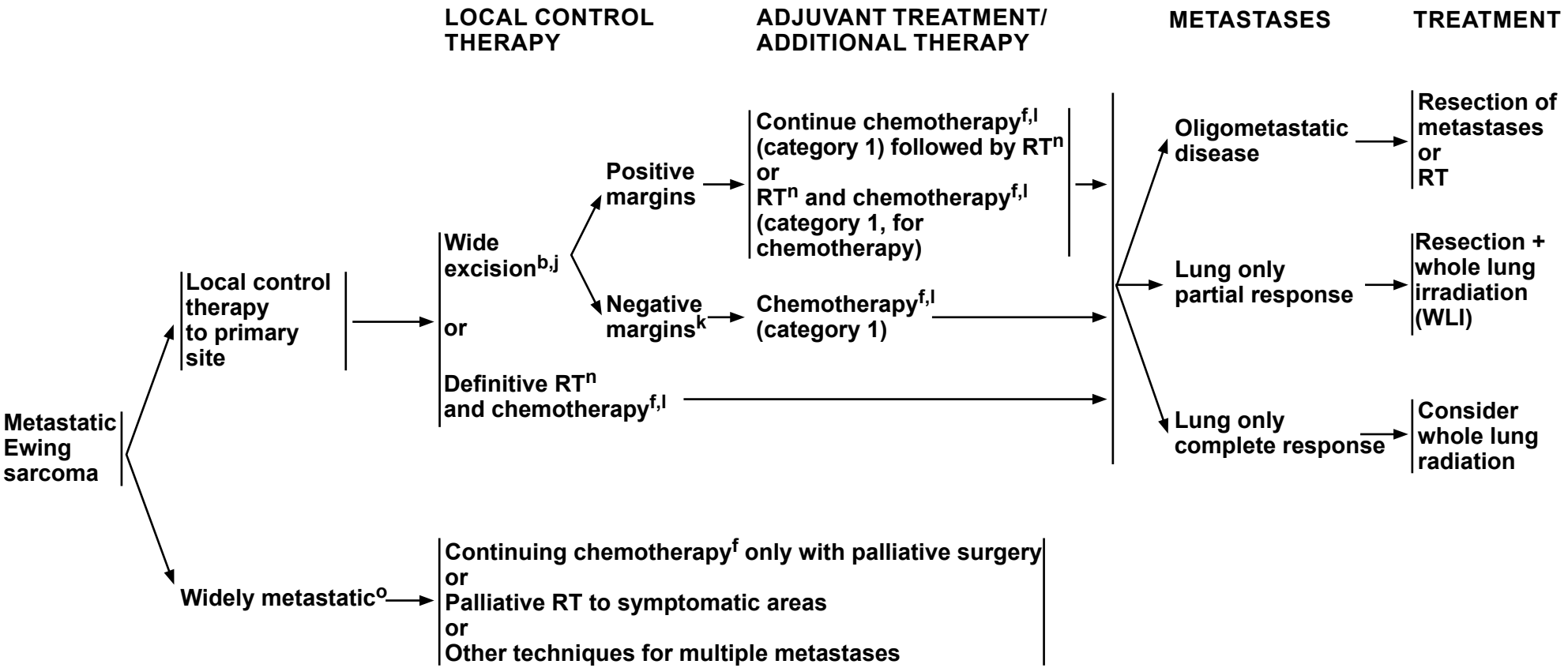

[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[f] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[j] Consider preoperative RT for marginally resectable lesions.
[k] RT may be considered for close margins.
[l] There is category 1 evidence for between 28 and 49 weeks of chemotherapy depending on the chemotherapy and dosing schedule used.
[n] See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).
[o] Local control cannot be delivered to all areas of disease.

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WORKUP

- History and physical examination
- Imaging of primary site as clinically indicated (eg, x-ray, CT with contrast ± MRI with contrast)
- Chest imaging
- Bone scan (optional)
- Biopsy to confirm diagnosis[a,b]
- If there is malignant transformation, treat as described for osteosarcoma (See OSTEO-1)

PRESENTATION

- Localized disease → See GCTB-2
- Metastatic disease at presentation → See GCTB-2

[a]Brown tumor of hyperparathyroidism should be considered as a differential diagnosis.
[b]See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).

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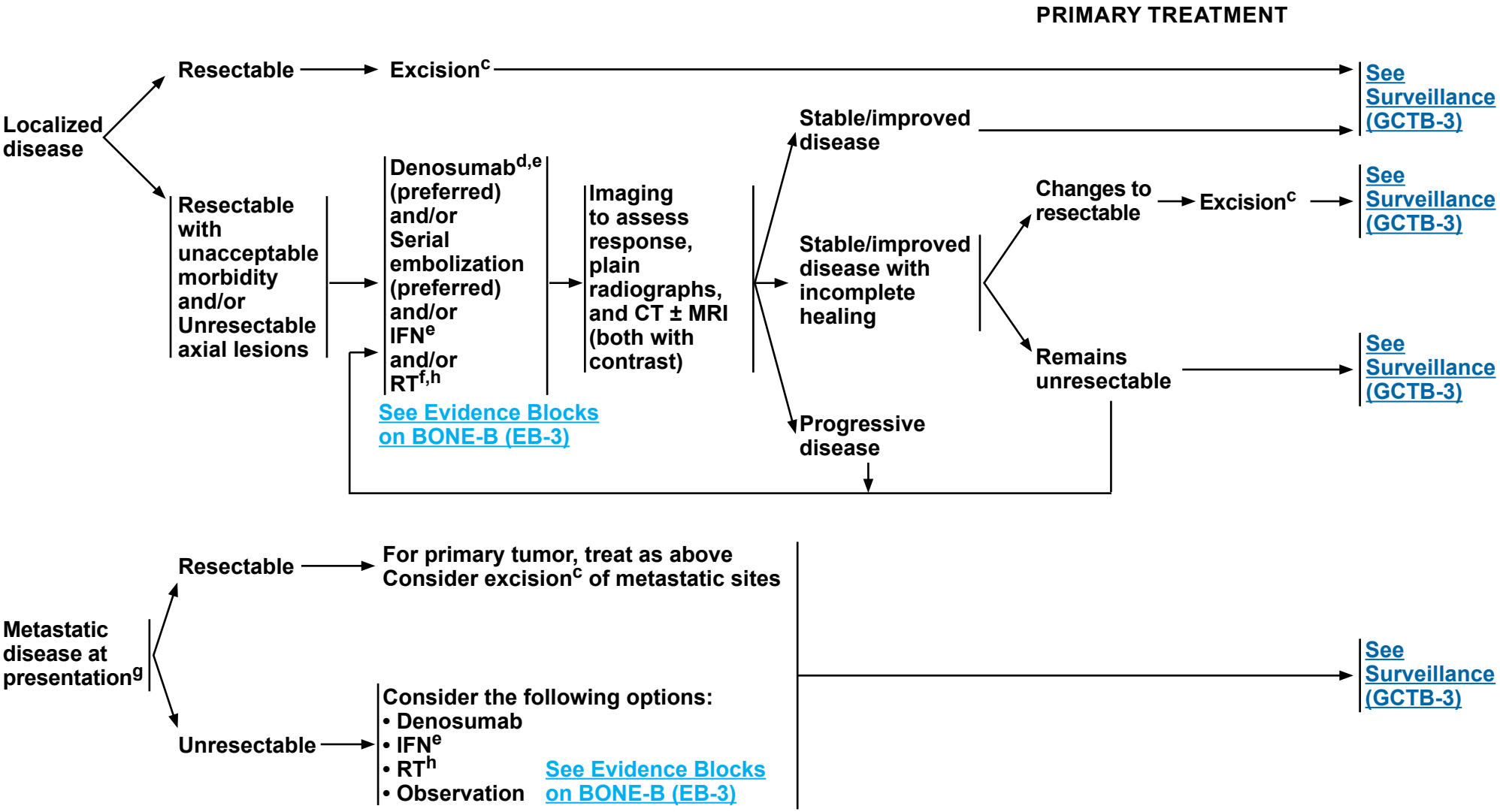

[c]Intralesional excision with an effective adjuvant is adequate.
[d]Denosumab should be continued until disease progression in responding disease.
[e]See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[f]RT may be associated with increased risk of malignant transformation.
[g]Treatment of primary tumor is as described for localized disease.
[h]See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).

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SURVEILLANCE

- Physical exam
- Imaging of surgical site as clinically indicated (eg, x-ray, CT with contrast ± MRI with contrast)
- Chest imaging every 6 mo for 2 y then annually thereafter

RECURRENCE

Local recurrence

- **Resectable** → **Consider chest imaging** → **Consider denosumab prior to surgery** (See GCTB-2)

  See Evidence Blocks on BONE-B (EB-3)

- **Resectable with unacceptable morbidity or unresectable axial lesions** → See GCTB-2

Metastatic recurrence → See GCTB-2

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Osteosarcoma
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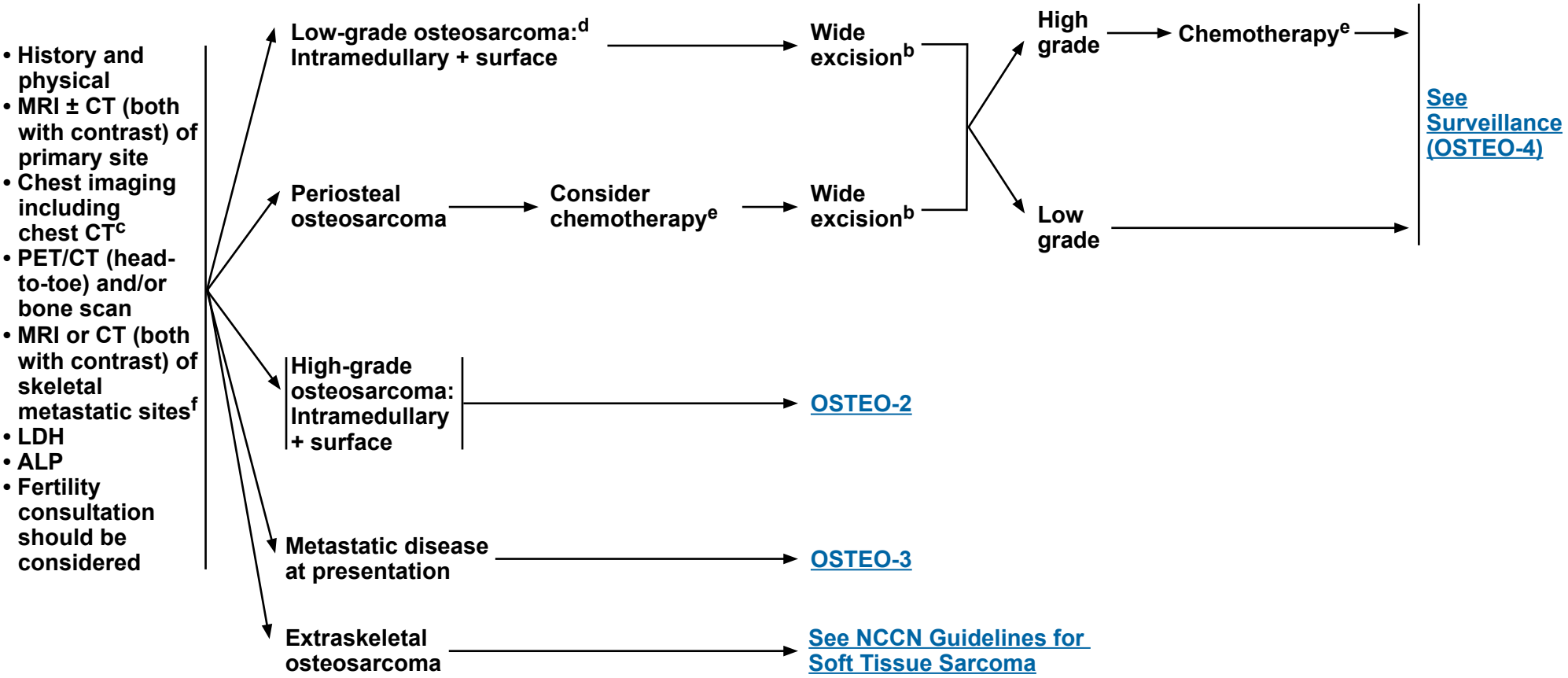

[a] See Multidisciplinary Team (TEAM-1).
[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[c] Chest CT with or without contrast as clinically indicated.
[d] Dedifferentiated parosteal osteosarcomas are not considered to be low-grade tumors.
[e] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[f] More detailed imaging (CT or MRI) of abnormalities identified on primary imaging is required for suspected metastatic disease.

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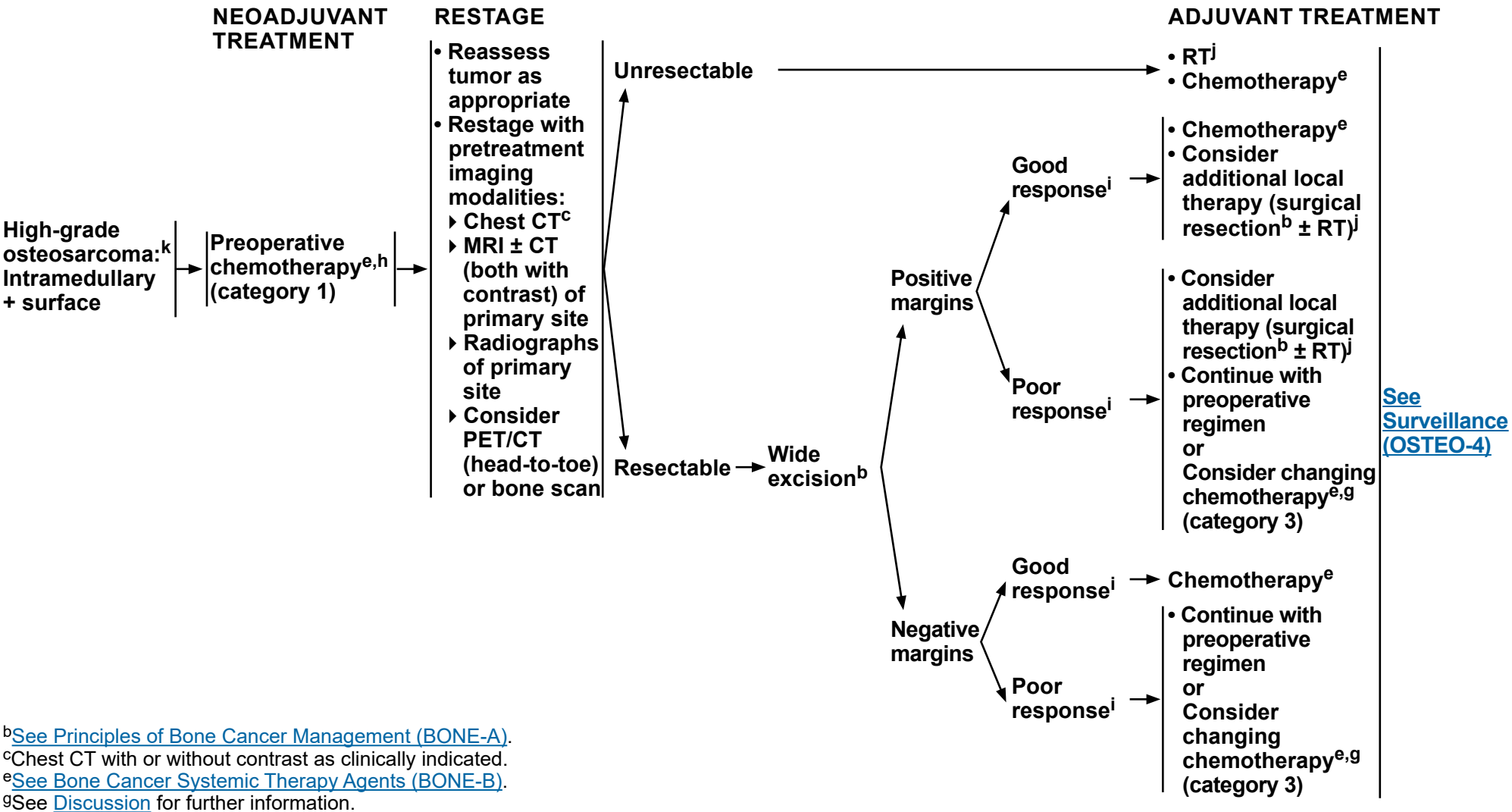

[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[c] Chest CT with or without contrast as clinically indicated.
[e] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[g] See Discussion for further information.
[h] Selected elderly patients may benefit from immediate surgery.
[i] Response is defined by pathologic mapping per institutional guidelines; the amount of viable tumor is reported as <10% of the tumor area in cases showing a good response and ≥10% in cases showing a poor response.
[j] See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).
[k] Other high-grade non-osteosarcoma variants such as undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma (UPS) of bone could also be treated using this algorithm.

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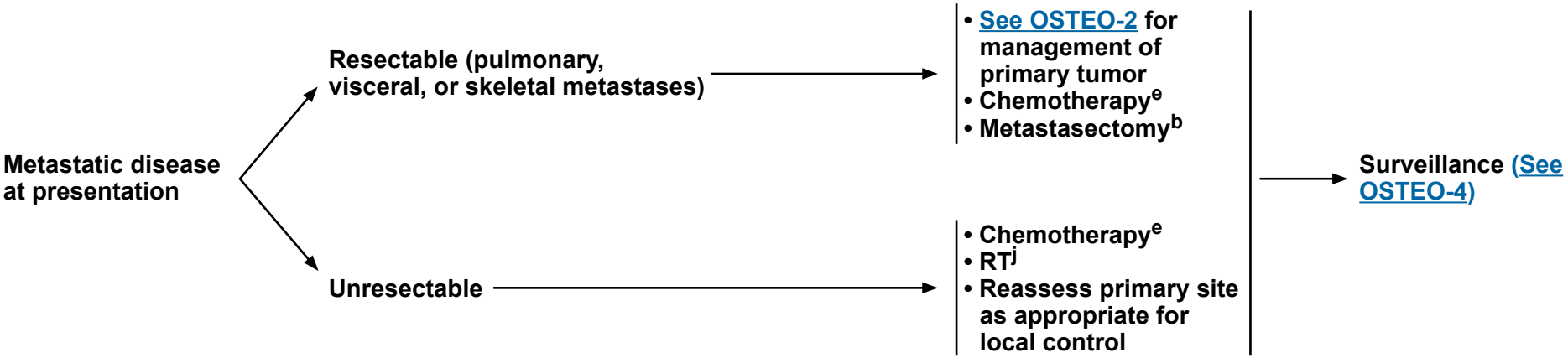
PRESENTATION

PRIMARY TREATMENT



[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[e] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[j] See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).

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SURVEILLANCE

- Physical exam, imaging of primary site and chest[l]
- Follow-up schedule: (Orthopaedic and oncologic)
  - Every 3 mo for y 1 and 2
  - Every 4 mo for y 3
  - Every 6 mo for y 4 and 5 and yearly thereafter
- CBC and other laboratory studies as clinically indicated
- Consider PET/CT (head-to-toe) and/or bone scan (category 2B)
- Reassess function every visit

RELAPSE

→ Relapse → Chemotherapy[e] and/or resection if possible → Imaging to assess response:
- Radiographs of primary site
- CT and/or MRI (both with contrast) of local sites
- Chest CT[c]

→ Response → Surveillance

→ Relapse/ Progression → Resection,[b] if possible
or
Clinical trial
or
Palliative RT[j,m]
or
Best supportive care

[b] See Principles of Bone Cancer Management (BONE-A).
[c] Chest CT with or without contrast as clinically indicated.
[e] See Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents (BONE-B).
[j] See Principles of Radiation Therapy (BONE-C).
[l] Use the same imaging technique that was performed in the initial workup.
[m] May include samarium or radium.

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PRINCIPLES OF BONE CANCER MANAGEMENT

Biopsy
- Prior to biopsy, consultation should be obtained with a surgeon regarding appropriate prebiopsy imaging.
- Biopsy diagnosis is necessary prior to any surgical procedure or fixation of primary site.
- Biopsy is optimally performed at a center that will do definitive management.
- Placement of biopsy is critical.
- Biopsy should be core needle or surgical biopsy.
- Technique: Apply same principles for core needle or open biopsy. Needle biopsy is not recommended for skull base tumors.
- Appropriate communication between the surgeon, musculoskeletal radiologist, and bone pathologist is critical.
- Fresh tissue may be needed for molecular studies and tissue banking.
- In general, failure to follow appropriate biopsy procedures may lead to adverse patient outcomes.

Surgery
- Wide excision should achieve histologically negative surgical margins.
- Negative surgical margins optimize local tumor control.
- Local tumor control may be achieved by either limb-sparing resection or limb amputation (individualized for a given patient).
- Limb-sparing resection is preferred to optimize function if reasonable functional expectations can be achieved.
- Final pathologic evaluation should include assessment of surgical margins, size/dimensions of tumor, and response to preoperative therapy.

Lab Studies
- Lab studies such as CBC, LDH, and ALP may have relevance in the diagnosis, prognosis, and management of bone sarcoma patients and should be done prior to definitive treatment and periodically during treatment and surveillance.

Treatment
- Fertility issues should be addressed with patients prior to commencing chemotherapy.
- Care for patients with bone cancer should be delivered directly by physicians on the multidisciplinary team (category 1). See TEAM-1.

Long-Term Follow-up and Surveillance/Survivorship
- Patients should have a survivorship prescription to schedule follow-up with a multidisciplinary team.
- Life-long follow-up is recommended for surveillance and treatment of late effects of surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy in long-term survivors.
- See NCCN Guidelines for Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Oncology (15–39 years old) as clinically appropriate.

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SYSTEMIC THERAPY AGENTS

MSI-H/dMMR Tumors		
Preferred Regimens	**Other Recommended Regimens**	**Useful in Certain Circumstances**
Pembrolizumab[1,†]	None	None

See Evidence Blocks on BONE-B (EB-1)

Chondrosarcoma			
	Preferred Regimens	**Other Recommended Regimens**	**Useful in Certain Circumstances**
Metastatic and widespread disease	None	Dasatinib[2,3]	None
Conventional (Grades 1–3)	No known standard chemotherapy options		
Mesenchymal	Follow Ewing sarcoma regimens (category 2B)		
Dedifferentiated	Follow osteosarcoma regimens (category 2B)		

See Evidence Blocks on BONE-B (EB-1)

Chordoma		
Preferred Regimens	**Other Recommended Regimens**	**Useful in Certain Circumstances**
None	• Imatinib[4,5,6] • Dasatinib[2,3] • Sunitinib[10]	• Imatinib with cisplatin[7] or sirolimus[8] • Erlotinib[9] • Lapatinib for EGFR-positive chordomas[11] • Sorafenib[12,13]

See Evidence Blocks on BONE-B (EB-1)

[†]Pembrolizumab is a systemic treatment option for adult and pediatric patients with unresectable or metastatic, microsatellite instability-high (MSI-H) or mismatch repair deficient (dMMR) solid tumors that have progressed following prior treatment and who have no satisfactory alternative treatment options. Not for Giant Cell Tumor of Bone or Chordoma.

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References

EVIDENCE BLOCKS FOR BONE CANCER SYSTEMATIC THERAPIES

MSI-H/dMMR Tumors	
Preferred Regimens	
Pembrolizumab	

Metastatic and Widespread Chondrosarcoma	
Other Recommended Regimens	
Dasatinib	

Treatment of Recurrent Chordoma	Local Recurrence	Metastatic Recurrence
Other Recommended Regimens		
Imatinib		
Dasatinib		
Sunitinib		
Useful in Certain Circumstances		
Imatinib/cisplatin		
Imatinib/sirolimus		
Erlotinib		
Lapatinib (EGFR-positive)		
Sorafenib		

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SYSTEMIC THERAPY AGENTS

Ewing Sarcoma			
	Preferred Regimens	**Other Recommended Regimens**	**Useful in Certain Circumstances**
First-line therapy (primary/ neoadjuvant/adjuvant therapy)††	• VDC/IE (vincristine, doxorubicin, and cyclophosphamide alternating with ifosfamide and etoposide)[14,15,†††] (category 1)	• VAI (vincristine, doxorubicin, and ifosfamide)[16,17] • VIDE (vincristine, ifosfamide, doxorubicin, and etoposide)[18] (category 1)	• None
Primary therapy for metastatic disease at initial presentation††	• VDC/IE[14] • VDC (vincristine, doxorubicin, and cyclophosphamide)[19] • VAI[16,17] • VIDE[18]	• None	• None
Second-line therapy (relapsed/ refractory or metastatic disease)††††	• Cyclophosphamide and topotecan[20-23] • Irinotecan ± temozolomide ± vincristine[24-33] • Ifosfamide (high dose) ± etoposide[34,35]	• Docetaxel and gemcitabine[36]	• Ifosfamide, carboplatin, and etoposide[37]

See Evidence Blocks on BONE-B (EB-2)

Giant Cell Tumor of Bone		
Preferred Regimens	**Other Recommended Regimens**	**Useful in Certain Circumstances**
• Denosumab[38-40]	• None	• Interferon alfa-2b[40-42]

See Evidence Blocks on BONE-B (EB-3)

††Dactinomycin can be substituted for doxorubicin for concerns regarding cardiotoxicity.
†††In patients younger than 18 y, evidence supports 2-week compressed treatment.
††††Vincristine could be added to any of the regimens.

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References

EVIDENCE BLOCKS FOR BONE CANCER SYSTEMATIC THERAPIES

First-Line Primary Treatment of Ewing Sarcoma (Nonmetastatic Disease at Presentation)	
Preferred Regimens	
VDC/IE	
Other Recommended Regimens	
VAI	
VIDE	

First-Line Adjuvant Therapy for Ewing Sarcoma	
Preferred Regimens	
VDC/IE	
Other Recommended Regimens	
VAI	
VIDE	

First-Line Therapy for Metastatic Ewing Sarcoma at Initial Presentation	
Preferred Regimens	
VDC/IE	
VDC	
VAI	
VIDE	

Second-Line Therapy for Progressive/Relapsed Ewing Sarcoma	
Preferred Regimens	
Cyclophosphamide/topotecan	
Vincristine/cyclophosphamide/ topotecan	
Irinotecan	
Vincristine/irinotecan	
Irinotecan/temozolomide	
Vincristine/irinotecan/ temozolomide	
Ifosfamide (high dose)	
Vincristine/ifosfamide (high dose)	
Ifosfamide (high dose)/etoposide	
Vincristine/ifosfamide (high dose)/ etoposide	
Other Recommended Regimens	
Docetaxel/gemcitabine	
Vincristine/docetaxel/gemcitabine	
Useful in Certain Circumstances	
Ifosfamide/carboplatin/etoposide	
Vincristine/ifosfamide/carboplatin/ etoposide	

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SYSTEMIC THERAPY AGENTS

Osteosarcoma			
	Preferred Regimens	**Other Recommended Regimens**	**Useful in Certain Circumstances**
First-line therapy (primary/ neoadjuvant/adjuvant therapy or metastatic disease)	• Cisplatin and doxorubicin[43-45] (category 1) • MAP (high-dose methotrexate, cisplatin, and doxorubicin)[45-48] (category 1)	• Doxorubicin, cisplatin, ifosfamide, and high-dose methotrexate[49]	• None
Second-line therapy (relapsed/ refractory or metastatic disease)	• Ifosfamide (high dose) ± etoposide[34,50] • Regorafenib[51] (category 1) • Sorafenib[52] • Sorafenib + everolimus (category 2B)[53]	• Cyclophosphamide and topotecan[23] • Docetaxel and gemcitabine[36] • Gemcitabine[54]	• Cyclophosphamide and etoposide[55] • Ifosfamide, carboplatin, and etoposide[37] • High-dose methotrexate • High-dose methotrexate, etoposide, and ifosfamide[56] • ^{153}Sm-EDTMP for relapsed or refractory disease beyond second-line therapy[57]

See Evidence Blocks on BONE-B (EB-3 and EB-4)

High-Grade Undifferentiated Pleomorphic Sarcoma (UPS)
Follow osteosarcoma regimens (category 2B)

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References

EVIDENCE BLOCKS FOR BONE CANCER SYSTEMATIC THERAPIES

Giant Cell Tumor of the Bone at Initial Presentation	Localized Disease, Resectable with Unacceptable Comorbidity and/or Unresectable	Metastatic Disease, Unresectable
Preferred Regimens		
Denosumab		
Useful in Certain Circumstances		
Interferon alfa-2b		

Adjuvant Treatment for Low-Grade Osteosarcoma	
Preferred Regimens	
Cisplatin/doxorubicin	
MAP	
Other Recommended Regimens	
Doxorubicin/cisplatin/ifosfamide/ high-dose methotrexate	

Recurrent Giant Cell Tumor of Bone	Local Recurrence	Metastatic Recurrence
Preferred Regimens		
Denosumab		
Useful in Certain Circumstances		
Interferon alfa-2b		

Neoadjuvant Treatment for Periosteal Osteosarcoma	
Preferred Regimens	
Cisplatin/doxorubicin	
MAP	
Other Recommended Regimens	
Doxorubicin/cisplatin/ifosfamide/ high-dose methotrexate	

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EVIDENCE BLOCKS FOR BONE CANCER SYSTEMATIC THERAPIES

High-Grade Osteosarcoma: Intramedullary and Surface		
	Neoadjuvant	Adjuvant
Preferred Regimens		
Cisplatin/doxorubicin		
MAP		
Other Recommended Regimens		
Doxorubicin/cisplatin/ifosfamide/ high-dose methotrexate		

First Line Therapy for Metastatic Osteosarcoma at Presentation		
	Resectable	Unresectable
Preferred Regimens		
Cisplatin/doxorubicin		
MAP		
Other Recommended Regimens		
Doxorubicin/cisplatin/ifosfamide/ high-dose methotrexate		

Second-Line: Relapsed, Refractory, or Metastatic Osteosarcoma	
Preferred Regimens	
Ifosfamide (high dose)	
Ifosfamide (high dose)/etoposide	
Regorafenib	
Sorafenib	
Sorafenib/everolimus	
Other Recommended Regimens	
Cyclophosphamide/topotecan	
Docetaxel/gemcitabine	
Gemcitabine	
Useful in Certain Circumstances	
Cyclophosphamide/etoposide	
Ifosfamide/carboplatin/etoposide	
High-dose methotrexate	
High-dose methotrexate/etoposide/ifosfamide	

Relapsed or Refractory Osteosarcoma Beyond Second-line Therapy	
Useful in Certain Circumstances	
^{153}Sm-EDTMP	

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BONE CANCER SYSTEMIC THERAPY AGENTS REFERENCES

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BONE CANCER SYSTEMIC THERAPY AGENTS REFERENCES

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PRINCIPLES OF RADIATION THERAPY

General Principles

- **Patients should be strongly encouraged to have RT at the same specialized center that is providing surgical and systemic interventions.**
- **Specialized techniques such as intensity-modulated RT (IMRT); particle beam RT with protons, carbon ions, or other heavy ions; or stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) should be considered as indicated in order to allow high-dose therapy while maximizing normal tissue sparing.**
- **The RT doses listed below for chondrosarcoma and chordoma are for conventional fractionated regimens (1.8–2.0 Gy). Alternative total dose and fractionation schemes are necessary for specialized techniques such as SRS and stereotactic body RT (SBRT).**

General Treatment and Dosing Information - Chondrosarcoma

Dosing Prescription Regimen

- **Low-grade and intracompartmental**
  - **Unresectable:**
    - ◊ **Consider RT (>70 Gy) with specialized techniques**

- **High-grade, clear cell, or extracompartmental**
  - **Resectable:**[1]
    - ◊ **Preoperative RT: Consider if positive margins are likely (19.8–50.4 Gy) followed by individualized postoperative RT with final target dose of 70 Gy for R1 resection and 72–78 Gy for R2 resection.**
    - ◊ **Postoperative RT: Consider, especially for high-grade/dedifferentiated subtype, 70 Gy for R1 and >70 Gy for R2 resection using specialized techniques.**
    - ◊ **Radiation is not needed for R0 resection; there should be no pre- or postoperative considerations.**
  - **Unresectable:**
    - ◊ **Consider RT (>70 Gy) with specialized techniques.**

[1]R0 = No microscopic residual disease, R1 = Microscopic residual disease, R2 = Gross residual disease

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References

PRINCIPLES OF RADIATION THERAPY

General Treatment and Dosing Information - Chordoma

Dosing Prescription Regimen

- **Extracranial (mobile spine/sacrum)**
  - **Resectable:**[1]
    - ◊ **Preoperative RT: Consider if positive margins are likely (19.8–50.4 Gy) followed by individualized postoperative RT.**
    - ◊ **Postoperative RT: Consider postoperative RT for R1/R2 resection using specialized techniques with final target dose of 70 Gy for R1 and 72–78 Gy for R2 resection.**
  - **Unresectable: Consider RT (>70 Gy) using specialized techniques.**

- **Cranial (base of skull)**
  - **Resectable:**[1]
    - ◊ **Consider postoperative RT (>70 Gy) after R1/R2 resection using specialized techniques.**
  - **Unresectable:**
    - ◊ **Consider RT (>70 Gy) using specialized techniques.**

[1]R0 = No microscopic residual disease, R1 = Microscopic residual disease, R2 = Gross residual disease

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References

PRINCIPLES OF RADIATION THERAPY

General Treatment & Dosing Information - Ewing Sarcoma

Treatment of Primary Tumor/Dosing Prescription Regimen

- **Definitive RT**
  - Should start by week 12 of VAC/IE chemotherapy or week 18 of VIDE and is given concurrently with chemotherapy, withholding anthracyclines during radiation therapy per the Womer Protocol.
  - Treatment volumes and doses:
    - 45 Gy to initial gross tumor volume (GTV1) + 1–1.5 cm for clinical target volume 1 (CTV1) + 0.5–1 cm for planning target volume 1 (PTV1) – GTV1 is defined as pre-treatment extent of bone and soft tissue disease. If the tumor has responded to chemotherapy and normal tissues have returned to their natural position, GTV1 should exclude pre-chemotherapy soft tissue volume that extended into a cavity (eg, tumors indenting lung, intestine, or bladder resume normal position following chemotherapy).
    - Cone-down (CD) to cover original bony extent + a total of 55.8 Gy to postchemotherapy soft tissue volume (GTV2) + 1–1.5 cm for CTV2 + 0.5–1 cm for PTV2
    - Consider increasing boost dose to a total of 59.4 Gy for chemotherapy response <50%
- **Preoperative RT**
  - May be considered for marginally resectable tumors and is given concurrently with consolidation chemotherapy
  - Treatment volumes and doses:
    - 36–45 Gy for initial GTV + 2 cm
- **Postoperative RT**
  - Should begin within 60 days of surgery and is given concurrently with consolidation chemotherapy
  - Treatment volumes and doses:
    - R0 resection:[1] Consider treatment for poor histologic response even if margins are adequate (45 Gy to GTV2 equivalent volume + 1–1.5 cm for CTV1 + 0.5–1 cm for PTV1)
    - R1 resection:[1] 45 Gy GTV2 equivalent volume + 1–1.5 cm for CTV1 + 0.5–1 cm for PTV1
    - R2 resection:[1] 45 Gy to GTV2 equivalent volume + 1–1.5 cm for CTV1 + 0.5–1 cm for PTV1 followed by CD to residual disease plus a total of 55.8 Gy to GTV2 + 1–1.5 cm for CTV2 + 0.5–1 cm for PTV2

[1]R0 = No microscopic residual disease, R1 = Microscopic residual disease, R2 = Gross residual disease

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References

PRINCIPLES OF RADIATION THERAPY

Hemithorax Irradiation
- Should be considered for chest wall primaries with extensive ipsilateral pleural involvement
- 15–20 Gy (1.5 Gy/fx) followed by CD to primary site (final dose based on resection margins)

Treatment of Metastatic Disease
- Consider whole lung irradiation for pulmonary metastases following completion of chemotherapy/metastasectomy (category 3)
  - 15 Gy (1.5 Gy/fx) for patients <14 years
  - 18 Gy for patients >14 years
- Current Children's Oncology Group (COG) study stratifies age before or after 6 years (12 vs. 15 Gy)

General Treatment and Dosing Information - Giant Cell Tumor of the Bone
Treatment of Primary Site or Metastatic Disease/Dosing Prescription Regimen
- Consider RT (50–60 Gy) for unresectable/progressive/recurrent disease that has not responded to denosumab, serial embolizations, IFN, or other treatments.
- An increased risk of malignant transformation following RT has been noted in some studies.

General Treatment and Dosing Information - Osteosarcoma
Treatment of Primary Tumor/Dosing Prescription Regimen
- Consider RT for positive margins (R1) or gross residual (R2) or unresectable disease.
- Postoperative RT (R1 and R2 resections):[1] 55 Gy with 9–13 Gy boost to microscopic or gross disease (total dose to high-risk sites 64–68 Gy)
- Unresectable disease: 60–70 Gy (total dose will depend on normal tissue tolerance)

Treatment of Metastatic Disease
- Consider use of Sm 153-EDTMP.
- Consider use of SRS, especially for oligometastases.

[1]R0 = No microscopic residual disease, R1 = Microscopic residual disease, R2 = Gross residual disease

References

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American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC)
TNM Staging System for Bone *(Primary malignant lymphoma and multiple myeloma are not included)*

Table 1. **Definitions for T, N, M**

Appendicular Skeleton, Trunk, Skull, and Facial Bones

T	Primary Tumor
TX	Primary tumor cannot be assessed
T0	No evidence of primary tumor
T1	Tumor ≤8 cm in greatest dimension
T2	Tumor >8 cm in greatest dimension
T3	Discontinuous tumors in the primary bone site

Spine

T	Primary Tumor
TX	Primary tumor cannot be assessed
T0	No evidence of primary tumor
T1	Tumor confined to one vertebral segment or two adjacent vertebral segments
T2	Tumor confined to three adjacent vertebral segments
T3	Tumor confined to four or more adjacent vertebral segments, or any nonadjacent vertebral segments
T4	Extension into the spinal canal or great vessels
T4a	Extension into the spinal canal
T4b	Evidence of gross vascular invasion or tumor thrombus in the great vessels

Pelvis

T	Primary Tumor
TX	Primary tumor cannot be assessed
T0	No evidence of primary tumor
T1	Tumor confined to one pelvic segment with no extraosseous extension
T1a	Tumor ≤8 cm in greatest dimension
T1b	Tumor >8 cm in greatest dimension
T2	Tumor confined to one pelvic segment with extraosseous extension or two segments without extraosseous extension
T2a	Tumor ≤8 cm in greatest dimension
T2b	Tumor >8 cm in greatest dimension
T3	Tumor spanning two pelvic segments with extraosseous extension
T3a	Tumor ≤8 cm in greatest dimension
T3b	Tumor >8 cm in greatest dimension
T4	Tumor spanning three pelvic segments or crossing the sacroiliac joint
T4a	Tumor involves sacroiliac joint and extends medial to the sacral neuroforamen
T4b	Tumor encasement of external iliac vessels or presence of gross tumor thrombus in major pelvic vessels

N	Regional Lymph Nodes
NX	Regional lymph nodes cannot be assessed

Because of the rarity of lymph node involvement in bone sarcomas, the designation NX may not be appropriate and cases should be considered N0 unless clinical node involvement is clearly evident.

N0	No regional lymph node metastasis
N1	Regional lymph node metastasis

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Continued

American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC)
TNM Staging System for Bone *(continued)*

M	Distant Metastasis
M0	No distant metastasis
M1	Distant metastasis
M1a	Lung
M1b	Bone or other distant sites

G	Histologic Grade
GX	Grade cannot be assessed
G1	Well differentiated — Low Grade
G2	Moderately differentiated — High Grade
G3	Poorly differentiated — High Grade

Table 2. **AJCC Prognostic Groups**

There are no AJCC prognostic stage groupings for spine and pelvis.

	T	N	M	G
Stage IA	T1	N0	M0	G1, GX
Stage IB	T2	N0	M0	G1, GX
	T3	N0	M0	G1, GX
Stage IIA	T1	N0	M0	G2, G3
Stage IIB	T2	N0	M0	G2, G3
Stage III	T3	N0	M0	G2, G3
Stage IVA	Any T	N0	M1a	Any G
Stage IVB	Any T	N1	Any M	Any G
	Any T	Any N	M1b	Any G

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NCCN Categories of Evidence and Consensus	
Category 1	Based upon high-level evidence, there is uniform NCCN consensus that the intervention is appropriate.
Category 2A	Based upon lower-level evidence, there is uniform NCCN consensus that the intervention is appropriate.
Category 2B	Based upon lower-level evidence, there is NCCN consensus that the intervention is appropriate.
Category 3	Based upon any level of evidence, there is major NCCN disagreement that the intervention is appropriate.

All recommendations are category 2A unless otherwise indicated.

NCCN Categories of Preference	
Preferred intervention	Interventions that are based on superior efficacy, safety, and evidence; and, when appropriate, affordability.
Other recommended intervention	Other interventions that may be somewhat less efficacious, more toxic, or based on less mature data; or significantly less affordable for similar outcomes.
Useful in certain circumstances	Other interventions that may be used for selected patient populations (defined with recommendation).

All recommendations are considered appropriate.

Discussion

This discussion is being updated to correspond with the newly updated algorithm. Last updated 04/10/19

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Overview

Primary bone cancers are extremely rare neoplasms accounting for less than 0.2% of all cancers, although the true incidence is difficult to determine secondary to the rarity of these tumors.[1] In 2019, an estimated 3500 people will be diagnosed in the United States and 1660 people will die from the disease.[2] Primary bone cancers demonstrate wide clinical heterogeneity and are often curable with proper treatment. Osteosarcoma (35%), chondrosarcoma (30%), and Ewing sarcoma (16%) are the three most common forms of bone cancer. High-grade undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma (UPS) of bone, fibrosarcoma, chordoma, and giant cell tumor of bone (GCTB) are relatively rare tumors constituting up to 1% to 5% of all primary malignant bone tumors.[3] GCTB has both benign and malignant forms, with the benign form being the most common subtype.

Various types of bone cancers are named based on their histologic origin: chondrosarcomas arise from cartilage, osteosarcomas arise from bone, and fibrogenic tissue is the origin of fibrosarcoma of bone, whereas vascular tissue gives rise to hemangioendothelioma and hemangiopericytoma. Notochordal tissue gives rise to chordoma. Several primary bone cancers, including Ewing sarcoma, are of unknown histologic origin. Chondrosarcoma is usually found in middle-aged and older adults. Osteosarcoma and Ewing sarcoma develop mainly in children and young adults. Chordoma is more common in males, with the peak incidence in the fifth to sixth decades of life.[4,5]

The pathogenesis and etiology of most bone cancers remain unclear. Gene rearrangements between the *EWS* and *ETS* family of genes have been implicated in the pathogenesis of Ewing sarcoma.[6-9] Specific germline mutations have also been implicated in the pathogenesis of osteosarcoma.[10,11] Li-Fraumeni syndrome characterized by a germline mutation in the *TP53* gene is associated with a high risk of developing osteosarcoma.[12-14] Osteosarcoma is the most common second primary malignancy in patients with a history of retinoblastoma, characterized by a mutation in the retinoblastoma gene *RB1*.[10,15,16] Increased incidences of osteosarcoma have also been associated with other inherited genetic predisposition syndromes characterized by mutations in the DNA helicase genes.[10] Osteosarcoma is also the most common radiation-induced bone sarcoma.[17,18]

The development of multiagent chemotherapy regimens for neoadjuvant and adjuvant treatment has considerably improved the prognosis for patients with osteosarcoma and Ewing sarcoma.[19,20] With current multimodality treatment, approximately three quarters of all patients diagnosed with osteosarcoma are cured and 90% to 95% of patients diagnosed with osteosarcoma can be successfully treated with limb-sparing approaches rather than amputation.[21] Survival rates have improved to almost 70% in patients with localized Ewing sarcoma.[20] In patients with Ewing sarcoma and osteosarcoma, a cure is still achievable in selected patients diagnosed with metastatic disease at presentation.[22,23] The 5-year survival across all types of primary bone cancers is 66.9.[1]

The NCCN Guidelines for Bone Cancer focus on chordoma, chondrosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma, and osteosarcoma. The guidelines also provide recommendations for treating GCTB. Although typically benign, GCTB is locally aggressive and can lead to significant bone destruction.

Literature Search Criteria and Guidelines Update Methodology

Prior to the update of this version of the NCCN Guidelines for Bone Cancer, an electronic search of the PubMed database was performed to obtain key literature published in bone cancer since the previous Guidelines update, using the following search terms: chondrosarcoma OR chordoma OR Ewing sarcoma OR giant cell tumor of the bone OR osteosarcoma OR bone sarcoma OR primary

bone neoplasm OR primary bone tumor. The PubMed database was chosen as it remains the most widely used resource for medical literature and indexes peer-reviewed biomedical literature.

The search results were narrowed by selecting studies in humans published in English. Results were confined to the following article types: Clinical Trial; Guideline; Randomized Controlled Trial; Meta-Analysis; Systematic Reviews; and Validation Studies.

The PubMed search resulted in 136 citations and their potential relevance was examined. The data from key PubMed articles as well as articles from additional sources deemed as relevant to these guidelines and discussed by the panel have been included in this version of the Discussion section (eg, e-publications ahead of print, meeting abstracts). Recommendations for which high-level evidence is lacking are based on the panel's review of lower-level evidence and expert opinion.

The complete details of the Development and Update of the NCCN Guidelines are available at www.NCCN.org.

Staging

The eighth edition of AJCC staging classification (2017) is based on the assessment of histologic grade (G), tumor size (T), and presence of regional (N) and/or distant metastases (M).[24]

The NCCN Panel would like to clarify that although some studies interpret imaging before chemotherapy treatment based on the extent of tumor invasion relative to the periosteum (eg, extraperiosteal, intraperiosteal) for prognostic purposes, these terms do not specifically occur in any validated staging systems and the significance of it is unknown.

Principles of Bone Cancer Management

Multidisciplinary Team Involvement

Primary bone tumors and selected metastatic tumors should be evaluated and treated by a multidisciplinary team of physicians with demonstrated expertise in the management of these tumors. Long-term surveillance and follow-up are necessary when considering the risk of recurrence and comorbidities associated with chemotherapy and radiation therapy (RT). Life-long follow-up is recommended for surveillance and treatment of late effects of surgery, RT, and chemotherapy in long-term survivors. Patients should be given a survivorship prescription to schedule follow-up with a multidisciplinary team. Fertility issues should be discussed with appropriate patients.[25] For information on disease- and survivorship-related issues for adolescent and young adult patients, please refer to the NCCN Guidelines for Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Oncology as clinically appropriate.

Diagnostic Workup

Suspicion of a malignant bone tumor in a patient with a symptomatic lesion often begins when a poorly marginated lesion is seen on a plain radiograph. In patients younger than 40 years, an aggressive, symptomatic bone lesion has a significant risk of being a malignant primary bone tumor, and referral to an orthopedic oncologist should be considered prior to further workup. In patients 40 years of age and older, CT scan of the chest, abdomen, and pelvis with contrast; bone scan; mammogram; and other imaging studies as clinically indicated should be performed if plain radiographs do not suggest a specific diagnosis.[26]

All patients with suspected bone sarcoma should undergo complete staging prior to biopsy. Prior to biopsy, consultation should be obtained with a surgeon regarding appropriate pre-biopsy imaging. The standard staging workup for a suspected primary bone cancer should include chest imaging (chest radiograph or chest CT to detect pulmonary metastases),

appropriate imaging of the primary site (plain radiographs, MRI for local staging, and/or CT scan), and bone scan.[27] Whole-body MRI is a sensitive imaging technique for the detection of skeletal metastases in patients with small cell neoplasms, Ewing sarcoma, and osteosarcoma.[28,29] Imaging of painless bone lesions should be evaluated by a musculoskeletal radiologist followed by appropriate referral to a multidisciplinary treatment team if necessary. Laboratory studies, such as complete blood count (CBC), comprehensive metabolic panel with calcium to assess for hypercalcemia, lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), and alkaline phosphatase (ALP) should be done prior to initiation of treatment.

PET/CT is an alternative imaging technique that has been utilized in the pretreatment staging of soft tissue and bone sarcomas.[30,31] Published reports have demonstrated the utility of PET scans in the evaluation of response to chemotherapy in patients with osteosarcoma, Ewing sarcoma, and advanced chordoma.[32-35] PET/CT with the investigational radioactive substance ^{18}F-fluoromisonidazole (FMISO) has been shown to identify the hypoxic component in residual chordomas prior to RT.[36] This approach is being evaluated in clinical trials and would be helpful in identifying tumors with low oxygen levels that are more resistant to RT.

Biopsy

Incisional (open) biopsy and percutaneous biopsy (core needle or fine-needle aspiration [FNA]) are the two techniques historically used in the diagnosis of musculoskeletal lesions.[37,38] Open biopsy is the most accurate method because of larger sample size, which is useful for performing additional studies such as immunohistochemistry or cytogenetics.[39] However, open biopsy requires general or regional anesthesia and an operating room, whereas core biopsy can be performed under local anesthesia, with or without sedation. Core needle biopsy has also been used as an alternative to open biopsy for the diagnosis of musculoskeletal lesions with accuracy rates ranging from 88% to 96% when adequate samples are obtained.[40-43] Cost savings may be realized when needle biopsy is employed in selected patients.[40] Advances in imaging techniques have contributed to the increasing use of image-guided percutaneous biopsy for the diagnosis of primary and secondary bone tumors.[44] The method of choice for biopsy remains controversial since no randomized controlled trials have compared core needle biopsy with open biopsy.

The guidelines recommend core needle or open biopsy to confirm the diagnosis of primary bone tumor prior to any surgical procedure or fixation of primary site. Biopsy should be performed at the center that will provide definitive treatment for patients with a suspected primary malignant bone tumor. At the time of biopsy, careful consideration should be given to appropriate stabilization of the bone and/or measures to protect against impending pathologic fracture. The placement of biopsy is critical to the planning of limb-sparing surgery, and failure to follow appropriate biopsy procedures may lead to adverse patient outcomes.[37,38] In a multicenter review of 597 patients with musculoskeletal tumors, alteration of the treatment plan (complex resection or the use of adjunctive treatment) was encountered in 19% of patients and unnecessary amputation was performed in 18 patients.[45]

Both open and core needle biopsy techniques are associated with risk of local tumor recurrence either by tumor spillage or tumor seeding along the biopsy tract, if the scar is not removed en bloc during the tumor resection. The risk of tumor seeding is less with core needle biopsy.[46,47] Nevertheless, the same principles should be applied for core needle and open biopsy. Appropriate communication between the surgeon, orthopedic oncologist, and bone pathologist is critical in planning the biopsy route. It is essential to select the biopsy route in collaboration with the surgeon to ensure that the biopsy tract lies within the planned resection bed so that it can be resected with the same wide margins as the primary tumor during

surgery. Although the risk of tumor seeding is not significant with FNA biopsy, it is not suitable for the diagnosis of primary lesions since the diagnostic accuracy of FNA is less than that of core needle biopsy.[48]

Surgery

Surgical margins should be negative, wide enough to minimize potential local recurrence, and narrow enough to maximize function. Wide excision implies histologically negative surgical margins and it is necessary to optimize local control. Local control may be achieved either by limb-sparing surgery or amputation. In selected cases, amputation may be the most appropriate option to achieve this goal. However, limb-sparing surgery is preferred if reasonable functional outcomes can be achieved. Final pathologic evaluation should include assessment of surgical margins and size/dimensions of tumor. The response to the preoperative therapy should be evaluated utilizing pathologic mapping. Consultation with a physiatrist is recommended to evaluate for mobility training and to prescribe an appropriate rehabilitation program.

Radiation Therapy

RT is used either as an adjuvant to surgery for patients with resectable tumors or as definitive therapy in patients with tumors not amenable to surgery. Specialized techniques such as intensity-modulated RT (IMRT); particle beam RT with protons, carbon ions, or other heavy ions; or stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS)/stereotactic RT (SRT) should be considered as clinically indicated in order to deliver high radiation doses while maximizing normal tissue sparing.[49,50] RT should be administered at the same specialized center that is providing surgical and systemic interventions. See *Principles of Radiation Therapy* in the algorithm for treatment volumes and radiation doses specific to each subtype.

Chondrosarcoma

Chondrosarcomas characteristically produce cartilage matrices from neoplastic tissue devoid of osteoid and may occur at any age, but they are more common in older adults.[51,52] The pelvis and the proximal femur are the most common primary sites. Conventional chondrosarcoma of the bone constitutes approximately 85% of all chondrosarcomas and is divided as follows: 1) primary or central lesions arising from previously normal-appearing bone preformed from cartilage; or 2) secondary or peripheral tumors that arise or develop from preexisting benign cartilage lesions, such as enchondromas, or from the cartilaginous portion of an osteochondroma.[51,53] Malignant transformation has been reported in patients with Ollier disease (enchondromatosis) and Maffucci syndrome (enchondromatosis associated with soft tissue hemangioma).[54] The peripheral or secondary tumors are usually low grade with infrequent metastasis.[55] About half of chondrosarcoma cases and nearly all cases of Ollier disease and Maffucci syndrome are related to isocitrate dehydrogenase (*IDH1* or *IDH2*) mutations.[56-58]

In addition to conventional chondrosarcoma, there are several other rare subtypes constituting about 10% to 15% of all chondrosarcomas.[51] These include clear cell, dedifferentiated, myxoid, and mesenchymal forms of chondrosarcoma.[51,59] Primary skeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma (myxoid chondrosarcoma of bone) is an extremely rare neoplasm that has not been fully characterized as a distinct clinicopathologic entity.[60,61] It is considered to be a myxoid variant of intermediate- or high-grade chondrosarcoma and is commonly located in the bones around the hip joint.[51,61] An epidemiologic study of mesenchymal chondrosarcomas using the SEER database found that 40% of these were skeletal and 60% were extraskeletal.[62] Research suggests that alterations in the retinoblastoma pathway are present in a significant majority of clear cell, dedifferentiated, and mesenchymal chondrosarcomas.[59]

Extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma, on the other hand, is a rare soft tissue sarcoma that is characterized by chromosomal translocations t(9;22)(q22;q11-12) or t(9;17)(q22;q11), generating the fusion genes, *EWS-CHN (EWSR1-NR4A3)* or *RBP56-CHN (TAF2N-NR4A3)*, respectively.[63,64] In addition, two other variant chromosomal translocations, t(9;15)(q22;q21) and t(3;9)(q12;q22), resulting in fusion genes *TCF12-NR4A3* and *TFG-NR4A3,* respectively, have also been identified in case reports.[65] A retrospective study demonstrated prolonged overall survival (OS) in patients with extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma despite high rates of local and distant recurrence.[66] The data also revealed a significant pattern of decreased event-free survival (EFS) with increasing tumor size. Extraskeletal myxoid chondrosarcoma is not included in the NCCN Guidelines for Bone Cancer.

Symptoms of chondrosarcoma are usually mild and depend on tumor size and location. Patients with pelvic or axial lesions typically present later in the disease course, as the associated pain has a more insidious onset and often occurs when the tumor has reached a significant size.[67-69] Central chondrosarcomas demonstrate cortical destruction and loss of medullary bone trabeculations on radiographs, as well as calcification and destruction.[68] MRI will show the intramedullary involvement as well as extraosseous extension of the tumor. Secondary lesions arise from preexisting lesions. Serial radiographs will demonstrate a slow increase in size of the osteochondroma or enchondroma. A cartilage “cap” measuring greater than 2 cm on a pre-existing lesion or documented growth after skeletal maturity should raise the suspicion of sarcomatous transformation.[70]

Prognostic Factors

Whether the lesion is primary or secondary, central or peripheral, the anatomic location, histologic grade, and size of the lesion are essential prognostic features.[62,67,71-75] In an analysis of 2890 patients with chondrosarcoma from the SEER database, female sex, a low histologic grade, and local surgical stage were associated with a significant disease-specific survival benefit in the univariate analysis, whereas only grade and stage had significant association with disease-specific survival on multivariate analysis.[76] A recent epidemiologic study examined the impact of demographic and tumor characteristics on OS.[62] No differences in OS were observed between skeletal and extraskeletal mesenchymal chondrosarcoma, with a 5- and 10-year OS of 51% and 43%, respectively. Anatomic tumor location was a significant prognostic factor, with poorer OS observed among patients with axial versus cranial or appendicular tumor locations. Cranial tumors had different clinical behavior compared with axial and appendicular locations with data suggesting better OS for younger patients. Prognostic factors were also examined in a retrospective, multi-institutional analysis of 225 patients with low-grade chondrosarcoma.[77] Metastasis-free survival (MFS) probability was 95% at 5 years and 92% at 10 years. A low histologic grade and no recurrence had a significant MFS benefit, but tumor size at diagnosis and surgical margin width had no effect on MFS.

Treatment

Surgery

Wide excision with negative margins is the preferred primary treatment for patients with large tumors and pelvic localization, irrespective of the grade.[73,78-80] Wide resection with adequate surgical margins is associated with higher EFS and OS rates in patients with chondrosarcoma of axial skeleton and pelvic girdle. The 10-year OS and EFS rates were 61% and 44%, respectively, for patients who underwent resection with adequate surgical margins compared to the corresponding survival rates of 17% and 0% for those who underwent resection with inadequate surgical margins.[81] Intralesional curettage with adjuvant cryosurgery has been shown to be associated with low rates of recurrence in patients with grade I intracompartmental chondrosarcomas.[82-84] In selected patients with

low-grade and less radiographically aggressive, non-pelvic chondrosarcomas, intralesional excision can be used as an alternative to wide excision without compromising outcomes.[85-88] This approach should be restricted to extremity tumors.[89]

Radiation Therapy

Primary RT can be considered for borderline resectable and unresectable disease (category 2B). RT is also recommended after incomplete resection or for palliation of symptoms in patients with recurrent tumors.[51,52] In a retrospective analysis of 60 patients who underwent surgery for extracranial high-risk chondrosarcoma, the use of RT as an adjunct to surgery (preoperative or postoperative) was associated with excellent and durable local control for tumors not amenable to wide surgical resection.[90] A prospective outcomes study of patients with chondrosarcomas (n = 17) of the sacrum, cervical spine, and thoracolumbar spine found that high-dose external proton beam RT had a 4-year OS rate of 72% and more than half of patients (58%) with local control of disease. Treating patients with RT at the time of diagnosis is suggested to reduce the likelihood of local progression.[91]

Proton beam RT alone or in combination with photon beam RT has been associated with an excellent local tumor control and long-term survival in the treatment of patients with low-grade skull base and cervical spine chondrosarcomas.[92-99] In two separate studies, proton beam RT resulted in local control rates of 92% and 94% in patients with skull base chondrosarcoma.[92,96] Noel et al reported a 3-year local control rate of 92% in 26 patients with chondrosarcoma of the skull base and upper cervical spine treated with surgical resection followed by a combination of proton and photon beam RT.[95] In a larger series involving 229 patients with skull base chondrosarcomas, the combination of proton and photon beam RT resulted in 10-year local control rates of 94%.[93] Carbon ion RT has also been reported to result in high local control rates in patients with skull base chondrosarcoma[100,101] and patients with other unresectable chondrosarcomas.[102] SRS has also been evaluated for adjuvant treatment of skull base chondrosarcoma.[103]

Chemotherapy

Chemotherapy is generally not effective in chondrosarcoma, particularly the conventional and dedifferentiated subtypes. Mitchell and colleagues reported that adjuvant chemotherapy with cisplatin and doxorubicin was associated with improved survival in patients with dedifferentiated chondrosarcoma.[104] However, this finding could not be confirmed in other studies.[105-107] A review of outcomes for 113 patients with mesenchymal chondrosarcoma reported that the addition of chemotherapy was associated with reduced risk of recurrence and death.[108] Another report from the German study group also confirmed that the outcome was better in younger patients with mesenchymal chondrosarcoma who received chemotherapy.[109] In the absence of data from prospective randomized trials, the role of chemotherapy in the treatment of chondrosarcomas remains undefined.

An innovative multicenter, phase 2, single-arm study in patients with advanced sarcoma evaluated dasatinib, the small-molecule inhibitor of kinases (including SRC family, BCR-ABL, c-KIT, and platelet-derived growth factor receptors [PDGFRs] α and β). The Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration (SARC) coordinated this study, known as SARC009, which included 3 parallel trials focused on different rare sarcoma histologic types: aggressive sarcoma subtypes, indolent sarcoma subtypes, and gastrointestinal stromal tumors. The indolent sub-study included patients with unresectable, recurrent, or metastatic soft tissue or bone sarcoma, which included 33 patients with grade 1 or 2 chondrosarcoma.[110] The primary endpoint was progression-free survival (PFS) at 6 months using the Choi criteria, which for patients with chondrosarcoma was 47%, just below the 50% cutoff for an active agent.

Six patients had objective tumor response and 4 patients (12%) had stable disease for more than 1 year, suggesting some tumor control. An editorial published in the same issue of *Cancer* compared results of this and other trials using different chemotherapies for chondrosarcoma and found improved PFS at 6 months with dasatinib.[111] Since there is no defined chemotherapy for patients with advanced chondrosarcoma, dasatinib is included as a treatment option.

NCCN Recommendations

The histologic grade and tumor locations are the most important variables that determine the choice of primary treatment.

Wide excision or intralesional excision with or without an adjuvant are the primary treatment options for patients with resectable low-grade and intracompartmental lesions.[86,87] Wide excision is the preferred treatment option for patients with pelvic low-grade chondrosarcomas.[78] High-grade (grade II, III), clear cell, or extracompartmental lesions, if resectable, should be treated with wide excision obtaining negative surgical margins.[81] Wide excision should provide negative surgical margins and may be achieved by either limb-sparing surgery or amputation.

Postoperative treatment with proton and/or photon beam RT may be useful for patients with tumors in an unfavorable location not amenable to resection, especially in chondrosarcomas of the skull base and axial skeleton.[51,52] RT can be considered for patients with unresectable high- and low-grade lesions. However, since there are not enough data to support the use of RT in patients with chondrosarcoma, the panel has included this option with a category 2B recommendation.

There are no established chemotherapy regimens for conventional chondrosarcoma (grades 1–3). The guidelines suggest that patients with dedifferentiated chondrosarcomas could be treated as per osteosarcoma and those with mesenchymal chondrosarcomas could be treated as per Ewing sarcoma. Both of these options are included with a category 2B recommendation. Dasatinib is included as a category 2A recommendation for certain patients with chondrosarcoma, such as those with widespread metastatic disease.

Metastatic Disease

Patients with metastatic chondrosarcoma that is not dedifferentiated or mesenchymal either after recurrence or at presentation can be classified as oligometastatic or widespread disease. In general, patients with oligometastatic disease are amenable to local control (potentially rendering it disease free), such as with resection or RT, or treated as part of a clinical trial (goal is disease free/cure; more likely to proceed with surgery or radiation). Conversely, widespread disease cannot be treated by local resection or SBRT (goal is palliation).

For oligometastatic disease that is resectable, NCCN recommends surgical excision of all sites of disease, if possible. For oligometastatic disease that is unresectable, consider RT that may include ablative therapy. For widespread disease, NCCN recommends considering RT, surgery, and/or ablative therapies for symptomatic sites; systemic therapy; or clinical trial.

Surveillance

Surveillance for low-grade lesions consists of a physical exam and imaging. Imaging with radiographs of the primary site, and/or cross-sectional imaging (MRI or CT, both with contrast) and imaging of the chest and primary site are recommended as clinically indicated every 6 to 12 months for 2 years and then yearly as appropriate.

Surveillance for high-grade lesions consists of a physical exam, radiographs of the primary site, and/or cross-sectional imaging (MRI or CT) as clinically indicated as well as chest imaging based on physician's

concern for risk of recurrence. Chest imaging should occur every 3 to 6 months (may include CT at least biannually) for the first 5 years and yearly thereafter for a minimum of 10 years, as late metastases and recurrences after 5 years are more common with chondrosarcoma than with other sarcomas.[72] Functional assessment should be performed at every visit.

Relapsed Disease

Local recurrence should be treated with wide excision if the lesions are resectable. RT (category 2B) or re-resection to achieve negative surgical margins should be considered following wide excision with positive surgical margins. Negative surgical margins should be observed. Unresectable recurrences are treated with RT (category 2B). A study in 25 patients demonstrated effective local control and low acute toxicity with carbon ion RT in patients with recurrent skull base chordoma or chondrosarcoma.[112] Patients with systemic recurrence of a high-grade chondrosarcoma should follow the recommendations described above for *Metastatic Disease*.

Chordoma

Chordomas arise from the embryonic remnants of the notochord and are more common in older adults. Chordomas predominantly arise in the axial skeleton, with the sacrum (50%–60%), skull base (25%–35%), and spine (15%) being the most common primary sites.[5,113] Chordomas are classified into three histologic variants: conventional, chondroid, and dedifferentiated. Conventional chordomas are the most common histologic subtype characterized by the absence of cartilaginous or mesenchymal components. Chondroid chordomas present with histologic features of chordoma and cartilage elements, accounting for 5% to 15% of all chordomas. Dedifferentiated chordomas constitute about 2% to 8% of all chordomas and have features of high-grade pleomorphic spindle cell soft tissue sarcoma and an aggressive clinical course.[113]

Chordomas of the spine and sacrum present with localized deep pain or radiculopathies, whereas cervical chordomas can cause airway obstruction or dysphagia and might present as an oropharyngeal mass. Neurologic deficit is more often associated with chordomas of the skull base and mobile spine than chordomas of sacrococcygeal region.[5] A review of 47 patients with skull base chordomas suggested that male sex was associated with worse PFS and OS.[114]

Workup

Initial workup should include history and physical examination with adequate primary site imaging (ie, x-ray, CT with contrast ± MRI with contrast), screening MRI of spinal axis, and chest-abdominal-pelvic CT with contrast. Skull base to mid-thigh PET/CT or bone scan (if PET/CT is negative) can be considered for unusual cases. Benign notochordal cell tumors (BNCTs) are considered precursors to chordomas and do not require surgical management.[115,116] CT and MRI may be useful in distinguishing BNCTs from chordomas.[117,118]

For skull base chordomas, CT is useful to delineate bone destruction and the presence of calcifications, whereas MRI is the modality of choice to define the tumor margin from brain, characterize the position and extension of tumors into the adjacent soft tissue structures, and visualize blood vessels.[119,120] For sacrococcygeal chordomas, CT and MRI are useful to assess the soft tissue involvement, calcifications, and epidural extension.[121-123] MRI provides more precise and superior contrast with surrounding soft tissues compared with CT and is helpful to assess recurrent or metastatic lesions.[121,122] CT is also of particular importance to assess bony involvement, calcifications, and soft tissue and epidural extension of spinal chordomas, whereas MRI is the best imaging modality to detect tumor extension, cord compression, local recurrence, and residual tumor in the surgical scar tissue after surgical resection.[124,125] CT

is also useful in planning the reconstruction of the resistant osseous defect in tumors of the proximal sacrum.

Biopsy to confirm histologic subtype should be done after imaging studies and may vary depending on the anatomic location of the tumor. Needle biopsy is not recommended for skull base tumors. Suspected sacral chordomas should be biopsied dorsally rather than transrectally.

Treatment

Surgery

Wide excision with adequate margins is the preferred primary treatment for patients with chordoma.[126,127] A retrospective analysis of 962 patients with chordoma identified in the SEER database demonstrated that surgery significantly improves OS.[127] Several other reports have confirmed the prognostic significance of wide surgical margins, in terms of relapse-free survival (RFS) and OS, in patients with chordomas of the sacrum,[128-131] skull base,[132-138] and spine.[130,139,140] Among patients with chordoma of the mobile spine, Boriani et al reported that only margin-free en bloc resection was associated with continuous disease-free survival (DFS) with a follow-up of longer than 5 years; 12 of 18 patients were continuously disease-free at an average of 8 years after en bloc resection, whereas all patients who were treated with intralesional excision experienced recurrences in less than 2 years.[139] In patients with chordomas of the sacrum and spine, Ruggieri et al reported a local recurrence rate of only 17% following wide surgical margins compared to 81% following intralesional excision or marginal surgery. Tzortzidis et al reported that aggressive microsurgical resection is associated with long-term, tumor-free survival with good functional outcome in patients with cranial base chordomas; gross total removal was achieved in 72% of patients resulting in local control rates of 50%.[133] In a 10-year meta-analysis that included 802 patients with skull base chordoma, Di Maio et al reported that patients with incomplete resection were 3.83 times more likely to experience a recurrence at 5 years than patients with complete resection.[136,137]

Radiation Therapy

RT (preoperative, postoperative, or intraoperative) is used in combination with surgery to improve local control and DFS for patients with resectable chordomas. Various retrospective studies and case series have demonstrated improved local control and DFS with combined surgical/RT approaches for treating spinal/sacral[91,98,141-145] and clival/skull base chordomas.[132,143,146-150]

A meta-analysis of 464 patients with cranial chordoma revealed a recurrence rate of 68% with an average/median DFS of 23 and 45 months, respectively.[148] Patient subsets with decreased recurrence rates included younger patients, those with chondroid-type chordoma, and patients who received surgery and adjuvant RT.

Particle beam RT (either alone or in combination with photon beam RT) with high-energy protons[92-95,98,142,149,151-156] or carbon ions[100,101,157-161] has resulted in local control rates ranging from 62% to 81% in patients with skull base as well as extracranial chordomas involving the spine and sacrum. Carbon ion RT also resulted in preservation of urinary-anorectal function compared with surgery in patients with sacral chordomas.[159]

A prospective trial of high-dose photon/proton RT in 50 patients with bone sarcomas of the spine (n = 29 chordoma, 14 chondrosarcoma, 7 other histologies) resulted in 5- and 8-year actuarial local control rates of 94% and 85% for primary tumors and 81% and 74% for primary and locally recurrent tumors. The 8-year actuarial risk of grades 3-4 RT toxicity was 13%.[98] A subsequent retrospective review of 126 patients with spinal/sacral chordoma who received high-dose proton therapy revealed 5-year OS and local control of 81% and 62%, respectively.[142] A recent retrospective analysis of 40 patients with unresected chordoma treated

with photon/proton RT showed 5-year local control rate and OS of 85.4% and 81.9%, respectively.[162]

Specialized techniques such as IMRT and SRS/SRT have also been associated with good local control rates in cranial as well as extracranial chordomas.[99,163-167]

Systemic Therapy

Chordomas are not sensitive to chemotherapy except for the potentially dedifferentiated portion of high-grade dedifferentiated chordomas.[168] Several signal transduction pathways including PDGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR), and mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) have been implicated in the pathogenesis of chordomas, leading to the development of targeted therapies.[169,170]

In a phase II trial of 56 patients with advanced chordoma treated with imatinib, a tyrosine kinase inhibitor, 70% of patients had stable disease. The clinical benefit rate (CBR) as determined by RECIST criteria (complete response + partial response and stable disease ≥6 months) was 64%, and the median PFS in the intention-to-treat population was 9 months.[35] Imatinib in combination with cisplatin or sirolimus has also been effective in a small series of patients with advanced chordoma resistant to prior imatinib therapy.[171,172] A retrospective study of imatinib in advanced, progressive, and inoperable chordoma achieved stable disease in 74% of patients, with a median PFS of 9.9 months.[173]The efficacy of EGFR inhibitors such as erlotinib and lapatinib has also been demonstrated in patients with advanced chordoma resistant to imatinib.[174-176] In a phase II study of 18 patients with locally advanced and metastatic chordoma, lapatinib induced partial response in 33% of patients and 39% of patients had stable disease, based on Choi response criteria, whereas all patients had stable disease based on RECIST criteria.[176] The median PFS was 6 months and 8 months (with a CBR of 22%) based on Choi and RECIST criteria, respectively.

The multikinase inhibitor sorafenib was recently added as a systemic therapy option based on data from a phase II trial in 27 patients with advanced/metastatic chordoma. In this trial, the intent-to-treat best objective response was 1/27 (3.7%; 95% CI, 0.1%–19.0%), 9-month PFS was 73.0% (95% CI, 46.1–88.0), and 12-month OS was 86.5% (95% CI, 55.8–96.5).[177,178]

In the most recent update of the guidelines, dasatinib was added as a systemic therapy option based on data from the SARC009 indolent substudy that included 32 patients with unresectable, recurrent, or metastatic chordoma.[110] The primary endpoint was PFS at 6 months using the Choi criteria, which for patients with chordoma was 54%. For patients with chordoma, the median PFS was 6.3 months and 5-year OS was 18%. The authors also compared reported patient outcomes in selected phase 2 studies in patients with chordomas and no substantial differences in ORR, median PFS, or 6-months PFS compared with imatinib or lapatinib treatment.

NCCN Recommendations

Tumor location is the most important variable that determines the choice of primary treatment for patients with conventional or chondroid chordomas. Dedifferentiated chordomas are usually managed as described in the NCCN Guidelines for Soft Tissue Sarcoma.

Wide excision with or without RT is the primary treatment option for patients with resectable conventional or chondroid chordomas of the sacrum and mobile spine.[126,127] Intralesional excision with or without RT (followed by MRI to assess the adequacy of resection) is the treatment of choice for patients with resectable skull base tumors of conventional or chondroid histology. Maximal safe resection is recommended when appropriate.[135] Adjuvant treatment with RT can be considered for large extracompartmental tumors or for positive surgical margins following resection. Postoperative RT has been associated with improved local

control and DFS following surgery with macroscopic surgical margins or intralesional excision.[141,143,148,179,180] Re-resection, if necessary, can be considered for skull base tumors with positive surgical margins.

RT is the primary treatment option for patients with unresectable chordomas, irrespective of the location of the tumor.

Surveillance

Surveillance consists of a physical exam, imaging (ie, x-ray, CT with contrast ± MRI with contrast) of surgical site as clinically indicated for up to 10 years, and chest imaging (every 6 months for 5 years and annually thereafter; may include CT annually; chest CT may be done with or without contrast as clinically indicated).

Relapsed Disease

Chordomas are characterized by a high rate of local recurrence, and distant metastases to lungs, bone, soft tissue, lymph nodes, liver, and skin have been reported in up to 40% of patients with local recurrence.[128,151,181,182] Among patients with recurrent chordomas of skull base and spine, Fagundes et al reported a higher 2-year actuarial OS rate for patients treated with subtotal resection than those who received supportive care only (63% and 21%, respectively; *P* = .001).[151] However, some studies have reported that surgery and RT are associated with lower local control rates for recurrent tumors than for primary tumors in patients with sacral chordomas.[153,165] A study in 25 patients demonstrated effective local control and low acute toxicity with carbon ion RT in patients with recurrent skull base chordoma or chondrosarcoma.[112]

Patients with recurrent disease can be managed with surgery and/or RT[183] and/or systemic therapy. The guidelines have included imatinib with or without cisplatin or sirolimus, erlotinib, sunitinib, lapatinib (for patients with EGFR-positive disease), sorafenib, and dasatinib as systemic therapy options for patients with recurrent tumors.

Ewing Sarcoma

Ewing sarcoma is characterized by the fusion of the *EWS* gene (*EWSR1*) on chromosome 22q12 with various members of the *ETS* gene family (*FLI1*, *ERG*, *ETV1*, *ETV4,* and *FEV*).[7,8] The *EWS-FLI1* fusion transcript resulting from the fusion of *EWS* and *FLI1* on chromosome 11 and the corresponding chromosomal translocation, t(11;22)(q24;q12), is identified in about 85% of patients with Ewing sarcoma.[7] In 5% to 10% of cases, *EWS* is fused with other members of the *ETS* gene family. In rare cases, *FUS* can substitute for *EWS* resulting in fusion transcripts with no EWS rearrangement [*FUS-ERG* fusion transcript resulting from the translocation t(16;21)(p11;q24) or *FUS-FEV* fusion transcript resulting from the translocation t(2;16)(q35;p11)].[184,185] Ewing sarcoma is also characterized by the strong expression of cell surface glycoprotein MIC2 (CD99).[186,187] The expression of MIC2 may be useful in the differential diagnosis of Ewing sarcoma and primitive neuroectodermal tumor (PNET) from other small round-cell neoplasms, although it is not exclusively specific for these tumors.[188]

Typically, Ewing sarcoma occurs in adolescents and young adults. The most common primary sites are the pelvic bones, femur, and the bones of the chest wall, although any bone may be affected.[19] When arising in a long bone, the diaphysis is the most frequently affected site. On imaging, the bone appears mottled. Periosteal reaction is classic and it is referred to as “onion skin” by radiologists.

Patients with Ewing sarcoma, as with most patients with bone sarcomas, seek attention because of localized pain or swelling. Unlike other bone sarcomas, constitutional symptoms such as fever, weight loss, and fatigue

are occasionally noted at presentation. Abnormal laboratory studies may include elevated serum LDH and leukocytosis.

Prognostic Factors

The important indicators of favorable prognosis include a distal/peripheral site of primary disease, tumor volume <100 mL, normal LDH level at presentation, and the absence of metastatic disease at the time of presentation.[189-195] Ewing sarcoma in the spine and sacrum is associated with significantly worse outcome and prognosis than primary Ewing sarcoma in other sites.[196]

Metastatic disease at presentation is the most significant adverse prognostic factor in Ewing sarcoma, as it is for other bone sarcomas.[22,193,197] Lungs, bone, and bone marrow are the most common sites of metastasis. In a retrospective analysis of 975 patients from the EICESS Study Group, 5-year RFS was 22% for patients with metastatic disease at diagnosis compared with 55% for patients without metastases at diagnosis.[22] Among patients with metastases, there was a trend for better survival for those with lung metastases compared to those with bone metastases or a combination of lung and bone metastases.[22] Metastases to uncommon sites (ie, brain, liver, spleen) were associated with a worse prognosis in a retrospective study of 30 patients.[198] Poor histologic/radiologic response to chemotherapy has also been identified as an adverse prognostic factor in patients with localized non-metastatic disease,[192,199,200] even when chemotherapy was followed by R0 resection.[201]

The results of the IESS study analyzing the clinicopathologic features of 303 cases of Ewing sarcoma showed that patients with primary tumors in pelvic bones have lower survival rates compared with patients with lesions in distal bones of the extremities.[202] In an analysis of 53 patients (24 adult and 29 pediatric) with Ewing sarcoma treated with chemotherapy, Gupta et al identified pelvic disease and time to local therapy as significant prognostic factors associated with EFS in a multivariate analysis.[203] In another retrospective analysis of patients with Ewing sarcoma from a large population-based cancer registry, Lee et al determined that adult age, Hispanic race, metastatic disease, large tumor size, and low socioeconomic status are poor prognostic factors for OS.[204]

Workup

If Ewing sarcoma is suspected as a diagnosis, the patient should undergo complete staging prior to biopsy. This should include CT of the chest with or without contrast as clinically indicated; MRI with or without CT of the primary site; head-to-toe PET/CT and/or bone scan; and possibly bone marrow biopsy and/or screening MRI of the spine and pelvis. In a systematic review and meta-analysis, Treglia et al have reported that the combination of PET/CT with conventional imaging is a valuable tool for the staging and restaging of Ewing sarcoma, with 96% sensitivity and 92% specificity.[205] An ongoing diagnostic study is comparing whole-body MRI and conventional imaging for detecting distant metastases in pediatric patients with Ewing sarcoma, Hodgkin lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, and neuroblastoma.

Cytogenetic and/or molecular studies of the biopsy specimen should be performed to evaluate the t(11;22) translocation. Preliminary reports suggest that *EWS-FLI1* translocation is associated with a better prognosis than other variants.[206-208] However, reports from the EURO-EWING 99 study and the Children's Oncology Group study suggest that with currently available effective therapies, patients with Ewing sarcoma have similar outcomes, regardless of fusion subtype in contrast to previous reports.[209,210] In addition to *EWS, FUS* should be considered as a fusion gene partner in the molecular diagnosis to identify the rare cases of Ewing sarcoma with *FUS-ERG* or *FUS-FEV* fusion transcripts.[184,185] Since serum LDH has been shown to have prognostic value as a tumor marker, the

guidelines have included this test as part of initial evaluation. Fertility consultation should be considered.

Treatment

Local Control Therapy

Surgery and RT are the local control treatment modalities used for patients with localized disease, but no randomized trials have compared these approaches head-to-head.

In patients with localized Ewing sarcoma treated in cooperative intergroup studies there was no significant effect of local control modality (surgery, RT, or surgery plus RT) on OS or EFS rates.[211,212] In the CESS 86 trial, although radical surgery and resection plus RT resulted in better local control rates (100% and 95%, respectively) than definitive RT (86%), there was no improvement in RFS or OS because of higher frequency of metastases after surgery.[211] In the INT-0091 study, the incidences of local failure were similar for patients treated with surgery or RT alone (25%), but surgery plus RT resulted in lower incidences of local failure (10.5%).[212] The 5-year EFS rate was also not significantly different between the groups (42%, 52%, and 47% for patients treated with surgery, RT, and surgery plus RT, respectively).

Data from other retrospective analyses suggest that surgery (with or without postoperative RT) affords better local control than RT alone in patients with localized disease.[213,214] The combined analysis of 1058 patients treated in the CESS 81, CESS 86, and EICESS 92 trials showed that the rate of local failure was significantly lower after surgery (with or without postoperative RT) than after definitive RT (7.5% vs. 26.3%, respectively; $P = .001$), whereas the local control rate with preoperative RT was comparable to that of the surgery group (5.3%).[213] The most recent retrospective analysis of sequential studies (INT-0091, INT-0154, or AEWS0031) performed by the Children's Oncology Group also demonstrated that definitive RT was associated with a higher risk of local failure than surgery plus RT, but there was no effect on distant failure.[214] Definitive RT could be an effective treatment option for patients with tumors in anatomical locations not amenable to achieve surgery with wider resection margins.[215,216] In a retrospective analysis of patients with Ewing sarcoma of vertebrae treated in the CESS 81/86 and EICESS 92 studies, definitive RT resulted in a local control rate of 22.6%, which was comparable to those of other tumor sites treated with definitive RT; EFS and OS at 5 years were 47% and 58%, respectively.[215] Tumor size and RT dose have been shown to be predictive of local control rates in patients with non-metastatic Ewing sarcoma treated with chemotherapy and definitive RT.[217,218] Local control therapy has also been associated with improved outcomes in patients with primary metastatic disease.[219-221] In the EURO-EWING 99 trial, the 3-year EFS was significantly lower in patients with primary metastatic disease who did not receive any local control therapy compared to those treated with local therapy for primary tumor.[219] Retrospective analysis of 198 patients from EURO-EWING 99 showed no improvement of 5-year EFS associated with adjuvant RT in the setting of completely resected disease of the chest wall.[222]

Chemotherapy

Multiagent chemotherapy regimens including ifosfamide and/or cyclophosphamide, etoposide, doxorubicin and/or dactinomycin, and vincristine have been shown to be effective in patients with localized Ewing sarcoma in single- as well as multi-institution collaborative trials in the United States and Europe. Neoadjuvant chemotherapy prior to surgery downstages the tumor and increases the probability of achieving a complete resection with microscopically negative margins. Adjuvant chemotherapy following surgical resection improves RFS and OS in a majority of patients.[223-227]

IESS-I and IESS-II showed that RT plus adjuvant chemotherapy with VACD (vincristine, dactinomycin, cyclophosphamide, and doxorubicin) was superior to VAC (vincristine, dactinomycin, and cyclophosphamide) in patients with localized non-metastatic disease.[224] The 5-year RFS rate was 60% and 24% for VACD and VAC, respectively ($P < .001$). The corresponding OS rate was 65% and 28% ($P < .001$).

The addition of ifosfamide, alone or in combination with etoposide to standard chemotherapy, has also been evaluated in patients with newly diagnosed, non-metastatic Ewing sarcoma.[225,228-232] In the Pediatric Oncology Group-Children's Cancer Group (POG-CCG) study (INT-0091), 398 patients with nonmetastatic Ewing sarcoma were randomized to receive chemotherapy with either VACD alone or alternating with ifosfamide and etoposide (VACD-IE) for a total of 17 cycles.[225] The 5-year EFS rate was significantly higher in the VACD-IE group than the VACD alone group (69% and 54%, respectively; $P = .005$). The 5-year OS rate was also significantly better among patients in the VACD-IE group (72% and 61%, respectively; $P = .01$). VACD-IE also was associated with lower incidences of local failure (11%) compared with VACD (30%) irrespective of the type of local control therapy; 5-year cumulative incidences of local failure were 30% in the VACD arm compared with 11% in the VACD-IE arm.[212]

While dose escalation of alkylating agents in the VDC-IE regimen did not improve the outcome for patients with localized disease,[233] chemotherapy intensification through interval compression improved outcome in patients with localized disease.[234] In a randomized trial for patients younger than 50 years with localized Ewing sarcoma (n = 568), Womer et al reported that VDC-IE given on an every-2-week schedule was found to be more effective than VDC-IE given on an every-3-week schedule, with no increase in toxicity; median 5-year EFS was 73% and 65%, respectively.[234]

The addition of ifosfamide and/or etoposide to standard chemotherapy did not improve outcomes for patients with metastatic disease at diagnosis in all of the studies.[225,228,230,235] In the INT-0091 study, which included 120 patients with metastatic disease, there was no significant difference in the EFS and OS rates between VACD-IE and VACD regimens.[225] The 5-year EFS rate was 22% for both regimens and the 5-year OS rate was 34% and 35% for the VACD-IE and VACD groups, respectively. In a study of 68 patients (44 patients with locoregional disease and 24 patients with distant metastases), Kolb et al reported 4-year EFS and OS rates of 82% and 89%, respectively, for patients with locoregional disease treated with intensive chemotherapy (doxorubicin and vincristine with or without high-dose cyclophosphamide) followed by ifosfamide and etoposide.[230] In patients with distant metastases the corresponding survival rates were 12% and 18%, respectively. Miser et al also reported similar findings in patients with Ewing sarcoma or PNET of bone with metastases at diagnosis.[235]

The EICESS-92 study investigated whether cyclophosphamide has a similar efficacy as ifosfamide in patients with standard-risk Ewing sarcoma (small localized tumors) and whether the addition of etoposide to a regimen already containing ifosfamide improves survival in patients with high-risk disease (large tumors or metastatic disease at diagnosis).[236] Patients with standard-risk disease were randomly assigned to VAIA (vincristine, dactinomycin, ifosfamide, and doxorubicin; n = 76) followed by either VAIA or VACA (vincristine, dactinomycin, cyclophosphamide, and doxorubicin; n = 79).[236] The 3-year EFS rates were 73% and 74%, respectively, for VACA and VAIA, suggesting that cyclophosphamide has the same efficacy as ifosfamide in this group of patients. Patients with high-risk disease were randomly assigned to VAIA or VAIA plus etoposide (EVAIA). The 3-year EFS rate was not significantly different between the two treatment groups (52% and 47%, respectively, for EVAIA and VAIA). However, there was some evidence that the addition of etoposide was

associated with a greater survival benefit in the subgroup of patients without metastases (P = .18) than in those with metastases (P = .84).[236]

As a follow-up to the EICESS-92 study, the Euro-EWING99-R1 trial evaluated cyclophosphamide as a replacement for ifosfamide as a part of consolidation therapy that also included vincristine and dactinomycin (VAC vs. VAI [vincristine, dactinomycin, ifosfamide]) after VIDE (vincristine, ifosfamide, doxorubicin, and etoposide) induction chemotherapy in 856 patients with standard-risk Ewing sarcoma. VAC was statistically not inferior to VAI, but was associated with a slight increase in events (-2.8% decrease in 3-year EFS). The proportion of patients experiencing severe hematologic toxicity was slightly higher in the VAC arm, but renal tubular function impairment was more significant for patients receiving VAI.[237]

High-Dose Therapy Followed by Stem Cell Transplant

High-dose therapy followed by stem cell transplant (HDT/SCT) has been evaluated in patients with localized as well as metastatic disease. HDT/SCT has been associated with potential survival benefit in patients with non-metastatic disease.[238,239] However, studies that have evaluated HDT/SCT in patients with primary metastatic disease have shown conflicting results.[240-246]

The EURO-EWING 99 study is the first large randomized trial designed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of multiagent induction chemotherapy with 6 courses of VIDE, local treatment (surgery and/or RT), and HDT/SCT in 281 patients with Ewing sarcoma with primary disseminated disease.[241] After a median follow-up of 3.8 years, the EFS and OS rates at 3 years for the entire study cohort were 27% and 34%, respectively.[245] The EFS rates were 57% and 25%, respectively, for patients with complete and partial response after HDT/SCT. Patient's age, tumor volume, and extent of metastatic spread were identified as relevant risk factors. The outcome of patients with and without HDT/SCT was not performed because of the bias introduced early in the non-transplant group (82% of patients without HDT/SCT died after a median time of 1 year).

The EURO-EWING 99 and Ewing-2008 randomized trial asked whether consolidation high-dose chemotherapy improved survival in patients with localized Ewing sarcoma.[246] Two hundred and forty high-risk patients were randomly assigned to receive 7 VAI courses (n = 118) or one course of busulfan and melphalan (BuMel) HDT with autologous SCT (n = 122), after a VIDE 6-course induction plus one VAI consolidation course. Patients were followed for 15 years; median follow-up time was 7.8 years. BuMel-treated patients had greater improvement in 3-year EFS (69.0% vs 56.7%) and 8-year EFS (60.7% vs 47.1%) compared to VAI-treated patients. There were 3 treatment-related deaths: 2 due to BuMel toxicity and 1 due to VAI toxicity. More patients experienced severe acute toxicities related to BuMel versus VAI course.

NCCN Recommendations

All patients with Ewing sarcoma should be treated with the following protocol: primary treatment followed by local control therapy and adjuvant treatment. Primary treatment consists of multiagent chemotherapy along with appropriate growth factor support for at least 9 weeks (category 1). Longer duration could be considered for patients with metastatic disease based on response. VDC/IE (vincristine, doxorubicin, and cyclophosphamide alternating with ifosfamide and etoposide) is the preferred regimen for patients with localized disease and a category 1 recommendation. VDC (vincristine, doxorubicin, and cyclophosphamide) is the preferred regimen for patients with metastatic disease.[225,230,234,235] See *Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents* in the algorithm for a list of other chemotherapy regimens that are recommended for patients with localized and metastatic disease.

Disease should be restaged with imaging following primary treatment. Chest imaging should be performed with CT and primary site imaging

should include MRI with or without CT and plain radiographs. Head-to-toe PET/CT and/or bone scan can be used for restaging depending on the imaging technique that was used in the initial workup. Patients with stable or improved disease after primary treatment should be treated with local control therapy. Local control options include wide excision, definitive RT with chemotherapy, or amputation in selected cases.[213,215,217,219] The choice of local control therapy should be individualized and is dependent on tumor location, size, response to chemotherapy, patient's age, anticipated morbidity, and patient preference.[212]

Adjuvant chemotherapy following wide excision or amputation is recommended for all patients regardless of surgical margins. The panel strongly recommends that the duration of chemotherapy following wide excision should be between 28 and 49 weeks depending on the type of regimen and the dosing schedule (category 1).[223-225] The addition of postoperative RT to chemotherapy is recommended for patients with positive or very close surgical margins.[213] Denbo et al reported that in patients with smaller tumor size (<8 cm) and negative margins, postoperative RT can be omitted without any decrement in OS.[247] The 15-year estimated OS for patients who received adjuvant RT was 80% compared to 100% for those who did not. The guidelines have included adjuvant chemotherapy alone for patients treated with wide excision and negative margins.

Progressive disease following primary treatment is best managed with RT and/or surgery to primary site followed by chemotherapy or best supportive care.

Surveillance

Surveillance of patients with Ewing sarcoma should include a physical exam, CBC and other laboratory studies, and cross-sectional imaging (MRI with or without CT) and plain radiographs of the primary site. Chest imaging (x-ray or CT) is recommended every 2 to 3 months. Head-to-toe PET/CT or bone scan can be considered. Surveillance intervals should be increased after 2 years. Long-term surveillance should be performed annually after 5 years (category 2B).[248]

Relapsed or Refractory Disease

About 30% to 40% of patients with Ewing sarcoma experience recurrence (local and/or distant) and have a very poor prognosis. Patients with a longer time to first recurrence have a better chance of survival following recurrence. Late relapse (2 years or more from the time of original diagnosis), lung-only metastases, local recurrence that can be treated with radical surgery, and intensive chemotherapy are the most favorable prognostic factors, whereas early relapse (less than 2 years from the time of original diagnosis) with metastases in lungs and/or other sites, recurrence at local and distant sites, elevated LDH at initial diagnosis, and initial recurrence are considered adverse prognostic factors.[249-252] In a retrospective analysis, site of first relapse and time to first relapse were significant prognostic factors for adult patients with localized Ewing sarcoma.[253] The probability of 5-year post-relapse survival was 55% and 22%, respectively, for patients with local and distant relapse. The probability of 5-year post-relapse survival was also significantly higher for patients with late relapse than for those with early relapse.[22,253,254]

Ifosfamide in combination with etoposide with or without carboplatin has been evaluated in clinical trials for the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory sarcoma.[255,256] In a phase II study, the combination of ifosfamide with mesna and etoposide was highly active with acceptable toxicity in the treatment of recurrent sarcomas in children and young adults.[255] In phase I/II studies conducted by the Children's Oncology Group, the overall response rate (ORR) in patients with recurrent or refractory sarcoma was 51%; OS at 1 and 2 years was 49% and 28%, respectively. OS appeared significantly improved in patients whose

disease had complete or partial response.[256] A review of 239 patients with Ewing sarcoma suggested the potential risk reduction benefit of high-dose versus conventional chemotherapy for treating first relapse.[257] High-dose ifosfamide with or without etoposide is included as a second-line therapy for relapsed, refractory, or metastatic disease.[255,258]

Non-ifosfamide–based chemotherapy regimens have also demonstrated activity in patients with relapsed or refractory bone sarcomas. Docetaxel in combination with gemcitabine was found to be well tolerated, resulting in an overall objective response rate of 29% in children and young adults with refractory bone sarcomas; median duration of response was 4.8 months.[259] Topoisomerase I inhibitors (topotecan and irinotecan) in combination with cyclophosphamide and temozolomide have also been associated with favorable response rates in patients with relapsed or refractory bone sarcomas.[260-266] In a series of 54 patients with relapsed or refractory Ewing sarcoma, cyclophosphamide and topotecan induced responses in 44% of patients (35% of patients had complete response and 9% had partial response).[261] After a median follow-up of 23 months, 26% of patients were in continuous remission. In a retrospective analysis of patients with recurrent or progressive Ewing sarcoma, irinotecan and temozolomide resulted in an overall objective response rate of 63%. The median time to progression (TTP) for all the evaluable patients (n = 20) was 8.3 months (16.2 months for the subset of patients with recurrent disease).[264] Patients who were in a 2-year first remission and those with primary localized disease had better median TTP compared to those who relapsed within 2 years from diagnosis and patients with metastatic disease at diagnosis.

Combination therapy with vincristine, irinotecan, and temozolomide also appears to be active and well-tolerated in patients with relapsed or refractory Ewing sarcoma, with an ORR of 68.1%.[267] A review of 107 patients with relapsed or refractory Ewing sarcoma examined the combination of etoposide with a platinum agent (ie, cisplatin or carboplatin), suggesting that further study of etoposide/carboplatin may be warranted.[268] HDT/SCT has been associated with improved long-term survival in patients with relapsed or progressive Ewing sarcoma in small, single-institution studies.[269-271] The role of this approach is yet to be determined in prospective randomized studies.

NCCN Recommendations

Treatment options for patients with relapsed or refractory disease include participation in a clinical trial and chemotherapy with or without RT. If a relapse is delayed, as sometimes occurs with this sarcoma, re-treatment with a previously effective regimen may be useful. See *Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents* in the algorithm for a list of other chemotherapy regimens recommended for patients with relapsed or refractory disease.

All patients with recurrent and metastatic disease should be considered for clinical trials investigating new treatment approaches.

Giant Cell Tumor of Bone

GCTB is a rare benign primary tumor of the bone accounting for about 3% to 5% of all primary bone tumors, with a strong tendency for local recurrence and that may metastasize to the lungs.[272,273] GCTB usually occurs between 20 and 40 years of age. Distal femur and proximal tibia are the most common primary sites. Malignant transformation to high-grade osteosarcoma has been observed in rare cases and is associated with a poor prognosis.[274,275]

Workup

Initial workup should include history and physical examination with imaging (ie, x-ray, CT ± MRI [both with contrast]) of the primary site as clinically indicated, in addition to chest imaging. CT is useful to define the extent of cortical destruction, whereas MRI is the preferred imaging

modality to assess the extension of tumors into the adjacent soft tissue and neurovascular structures.[276,277] Chest imaging is essential to identify the presence of metastatic disease. Bone scan can be considered for unusual cases. Biopsy is essential to confirm the diagnosis. Brown tumor of hyperparathyroidism should be considered as a differential diagnosis, though routine evolution of serum calcium, phosphate, and parathyroid hormone levels can help exclude this diagnosis.[278]

Treatment

Surgery

Wide excision and intralesional curettage are the two surgical treatment options for patients with resectable tumors.[279-285] Wide excision is associated with a lower risk of local recurrence than intralesional curettage, with the local recurrence rates ranging from 0% to 12% for wide excision and 12% to 65% for intralesional curettage. In some studies, the extent of intralesional excision and the tumor stage have been identified as prognostic indicators for risk of recurrence.[286-288] Blackley et al reported a local recurrence rate of 12% in 59 patients who were treated with curettage with high-speed burr and bone grafting, which was similar to that observed with the use of adjuvants; the majority of the patients had grade II or III tumors.[287] In another retrospective analysis of 137 patients, Prosser et al reported local recurrences in 19% of patients following curettage as a primary treatment; local recurrence rate was only 7% for patients with grade I and II tumors confined to the bone compared with 29% for those with grade III tumors with extraosseous extension.[288]

Surgical adjuvants have been used in conjunction with intralesional curettage to improve local control rates. However, the findings from studies that have evaluated intralesional curettage, with and without adjuvant in the same cohort of patients with primary or recurrent GCTB, are inconsistent, with some reporting decreased local recurrence rates with the use of adjuvants.[283,289-292] Others, however, have reported no significant difference in local recurrence rates with and without adjuvants.[129,293,294]

Wide excision is also associated with poor functional outcome and greater surgical complications.[295-299] Therefore, intralesional curettage is considered the treatment of choice in a majority of patients with stage I or II tumors. Wide excision is usually reserved for more aggressive stage III tumors with extraosseous extension or otherwise unresectable tumors.[288,300-303]

Radiation Therapy

RT has been used either as a primary treatment or in combination with surgery to improve local control and DFS for patients with marginally resected, unresectable, progressive, or recurrent disease.[304-315] In a retrospective analysis of 58 patients with GCTB (45 patients with primary tumor and 13 patients with recurrent tumor) treated with RT, the 5-year local control and OS rates were 85% and 94%, respectively.[314] Median follow-up was 8 years. In this analysis, patient age was the only prognostic factor with the local control rates (96% for younger patients vs. 73% for the older group) as well as OS (100% vs. 87%) and DFS rates (96% vs. 65%). Other studies have identified tumor size >4 cm, recurrent tumors, and RT doses of 40 Gy or less as negative prognostic factors for local control.[310-312,315]

Specialized techniques such as 3-D conformal RT and IMRT have also been associated with good local control rates in patients with GCTB in locations that are not amenable to complete surgical resection.[316,317]

Adverse side effects have occurred from RT. As GCTB is a benign growth, use of radiation should be considered more risky than for malignant tumors. Therefore, the panel recommends that RT should be considered if no other treatment options are available, if possible.

Systemic Therapy

Denosumab (a fully humanized monoclonal antibody against the RANK ligand) has demonstrated significant activity in patients with unresectable or recurrent GCTB.[318-321] In June 2013, denosumab was approved by the FDA for the treatment of adults and skeletally mature adolescents with GCTB that is unresectable or where surgical resection is likely to result in severe morbidity.

Several phase II trials have examined the efficacy of denosumab for treating primary and recurrent GCTB. In an open-label, phase II study (n = 37), denosumab induced tumor response (defined as the elimination of at least 90% of giant cells or no radiologic progression of the target lesion for up to 25 weeks) in 86% (30 of 35 evaluable patients) of patients with unresectable or recurrent GCTB.[318] An open-label, parallel-group, phase II study divided patients with GCTB into 3 cohorts: those with unresectable GCTB (cohort 1), those with resectable GCTB associated with severe surgical morbidity (cohort 2), and those transferred from a previous study of denosumab for GCTB (cohort 3).[320,322] After a median follow-up of 13 months, 96% of evaluable patients (163 of 169) in cohort 1 had no disease progression.[320] Clinically significant reductions in pain were reported by over half of the study patients within 2 months.[323] Final analysis of outcomes from cohort 2 (n = 222) showed that denosumab enabled 48% of patients to delay/avoid surgery and 38% to undergo less morbid resections. Treatment did not appear to worsen local control or increase recurrence rates compared with historical data.[322]

Phase II trial data have also suggested that sequential FDG-PET imaging appears to be a sensitive tool for early detection of tumor response to denosumab treatment.[324]

There have been reports of increased risk for developing osteosarcoma associated with denosumab therapy.[325,326] The data are limited to determine the cause for the increased risk, but the NCCN Panel identifies some possibilities, such as spontaneous conversion to a secondary sarcoma, or a diagnostic and/or sampling error that erroneously categorizes a tumor as GCTB.

NCCN Recommendations

Localized Disease

Intralesional excision with or without an effective adjuvant is an adequate primary treatment for resectable tumors.[129,293,294]

Serial arterial embolizations have been shown to be effective in the management of patients with giant cell tumors of the extremities, especially for tumors with large cortical defects or joint involvement and for those with large giant cell tumors of the sacrum.[327-330] A few case reports have reported the efficacy of interferon (IFN) and pegylated IFN in the management of GCTB.[331-334]

For patients with lesions that are resectable with unacceptable morbidity or unresectable axial lesions, the guidelines have included denosumab and/or serial embolizations as preferred options. Another primary treatment option is IFN-alfa-2b. RT may be associated with increased risk of malignant transformation and should be used in patients with tumors that are not amenable to embolization, denosumab, or IFNs. Imaging should be used to assess treatment response and should include plain radiographs as well as CT with or without MRI.

Following primary treatment, patients with stable/improved disease can be observed. For patients with stable/improved disease with incomplete healing following primary treatment, intralesional excision is recommended if the lesion has become resectable. Patients with unresectable disease should be retreated with denosumab, serial embolization, and/or IFN-alfa-2b. The guidelines recommend continuation of treatment until disease progression.

Metastatic Disease

For patients presenting with resectable metastases, the guidelines recommend that primary tumor be managed as described above for localized disease.[272,273,335,336] Intralesional excision is recommended for resectable metastatic sites. Denosumab, IFN, observation, and RT are included as options for patients with unresectable metastases.

Surveillance

Surveillance should include a physical exam, imaging (ie, x-ray, CT ± MRI [both with contrast]) of the surgical site as clinically indicated, and chest imaging every 6 months for 2 years then annually thereafter.

Recurrent disease (local or metastatic) should be managed as per primary treatment for localized disease or metastatic disease at presentation.

Osteosarcoma

Osteosarcoma is the most common primary malignant bone tumor in children and young adults. The median age for all patients with osteosarcoma is 20 years. In adults older than 65 years, osteosarcoma develops as a secondary malignancy related to Paget's disease of the bone.[15] Osteosarcoma is broadly classified into 3 histologic subtypes (intramedullary, surface, and extraskeletal).[337]

High-grade intramedullary osteosarcoma is the classic or conventional form comprising nearly 80% of osteosarcomas.[337] It is a spindle cell tumor that produces osteoid or immature bone. The most frequent sites are the metaphyseal areas of the distal femur or proximal tibia, which are the sites of maximum growth. Low-grade intramedullary osteosarcoma comprises less than 2% of all osteosarcomas and the most common sites are similar to that of conventional osteosarcoma.[338]

Parosteal and periosteal osteosarcomas are juxtacortical or surface variants. Parosteal osteosarcomas are low-grade lesions accounting for up to 5% of all osteosarcomas.[338] The most common site is the posterior distal femur. This variant tends to metastasize later than the conventional form. Transformation of low-grade parosteal osteosarcoma into high-grade sarcoma has been documented in 24% to 43% of cases.[339,340] Periosteal osteosarcomas are intermediate-grade lesions most often involving the femur followed by the tibia.[338] High-grade surface osteosarcomas are very rare accounting for 10% of all juxtacortical osteosarcomas.[341,342]

Pain and swelling are the most frequent early symptoms. Pain is often intermittent in the beginning and a thorough workup sometimes is delayed because symptoms may be confused with growing pains. Osteosarcoma spreads hematogenously, with the lung being the most common metastatic site.

For treating extraskeletal osteosarcomas, please see the NCCN Guidelines for Soft Tissue Sarcoma.

Prognostic Factors

Tumor site and size, patient age, presence and location of metastases, histologic response to chemotherapy, and type of surgery and surgical margins are significant prognostic factors for patients with osteosarcoma of the extremities and trunk.[343-351] In an analysis of 1702 patients with osteosarcoma of trunk or extremities treated in the COSS group protocols, patient age at diagnosis, tumor site, and primary metastases were identified as predictors of survival.[345] In patients with extremity osteosarcomas, in addition to these variables, size and location within the limb at the time of diagnosis also had significant influence on outcome.[345] All factors except age were significant in multivariate testing, with surgical remission and histologic response to chemotherapy emerging as the key prognostic factors. In a meta-analysis of data from prospective neoadjuvant chemotherapy trials in 4838 patients with osteosarcoma,

female sex was associated with increased chemotherapy-induced tumor necrosis and greater OS, and children had better outcomes than adolescents and adults.[352] In a report of the combined analysis of 3 European Osteosarcoma Intergroup randomized controlled trials, Whelan et al reported that good histologic response to preoperative chemotherapy, distal location (other than proximal humerus/femur), and female gender were associated with improved survival.[348] However, high body mass index (BMI) in patients with osteosarcoma was associated with lower OS compared with patients with normal BMI.[353]

In patients with proven primary metastatic osteosarcoma, the number of metastases at diagnosis and the completeness of surgical resection of all clinically detected tumor sites are of independent prognostic value.[23] Patients with one or a few resectable pulmonary metastases have a survival rate that approaches that of patients with no metastatic disease.[354,355]

Elevated serum ALP and LDH levels have also been identified as prognostic indicators in patients with osteosarcoma.[344,346,347] In a cohort of 1421 patients with osteosarcoma of the extremity, Bacci et al reported significantly higher serum LDH levels in patients with metastatic disease at presentation than in patients with localized disease (36.6% vs. 18.8%; $P < .0001$).[346] The 5-year DFS correlated with serum LDH levels (39.5% for patients with high LDH levels and 60% for those with normal values). In another retrospective analysis of 789 patients with osteosarcoma of the extremity, Bacci et al reported that the serum ALP level was a significant prognostic factor of EFS in patients with osteosarcoma of extremity; the 5-year EFS rate was 24% for patients with a serum ALP value of more than 4 times higher than the normal value and 46% for patients with high values below this limit ($P < .001$).[347] However, in multivariate analysis, these markers did not retain their prognostic significance when compared to tumor volume, age, and histologic response to chemotherapy.[344,346]

Workup

Osteosarcomas present both a local problem and a concern for distant metastasis. Initial workup should include imaging of the primary site (MRI with or without CT), chest imaging including chest CT, and head-to-toe PET/CT and/or bone scan. More detailed imaging (CT or MRI) of abnormalities identified on primary imaging is required for suspected metastatic disease.

Plain radiographs of osteosarcomas show cortical destruction and irregular reactive bone formation. Bone scan, while uniformly abnormal at the lesion, may be useful to identify additional synchronous lesions. MRI provides excellent soft tissue contrast and may be essential for operative planning. MRI is the best imaging modality to define the extent of the lesion within the bone as well as within the soft tissues, to detect “skip” metastases and to evaluate anatomic relationships with the surrounding structures. In addition, ALP and LDH are frequently elevated in patients with osteosarcoma. Serum LDH was significantly higher in patients with metastatic disease at presentation than in patients with localized disease.[346]

Treatment

Surgery

Surgery (limb-sparing surgery or amputation) remains an essential part of management of patients with osteosarcoma.[356] Studies that have compared limb-sparing surgery and amputation in patients with high-grade, non-metastatic osteosarcoma have not shown any significant difference in survival and local recurrence rates between these procedures.[357-359] However, limb-sparing surgery is associated with better functional outcomes.[360] In patients with high-grade osteosarcomas with good histologic response to neoadjuvant chemotherapy, limb-sparing surgery is considered the preferred surgical modality if wide surgical margins could be achieved.[357,361] Amputation is generally reserved for

patients with tumors in unfavorable anatomical locations not amenable to limb-sparing surgery with adequate surgical margins.[356,361]

Chemotherapy

The addition of adjuvant and neoadjuvant chemotherapy regimens to surgery has improved outcomes in patients with localized osteosarcoma. Early trials used chemotherapy regimens including at least 3 or more of the following drugs: doxorubicin, cisplatin, bleomycin, cyclophosphamide or ifosfamide, dactinomycin, and high-dose methotrexate.[362-367] Subsequent clinical trials have demonstrated that short, intensive chemotherapy regimens including cisplatin and doxorubicin with or without high-dose methotrexate and ifosfamide produce excellent long-term results, similar to those achieved with multiagent chemotherapy.[368-375] Cisplatin/doxorubicin and high-dose methotrexate, cisplatin, and doxorubicin (MAP) are included as category 1 recommended regimens for first-line therapy.

In a randomized trial conducted by the European Osteosarcoma Group, the combination of doxorubicin and cisplatin was better tolerated compared to a multi-drug regimen with no difference in survival between the groups in patients with operable, non-metastatic osteosarcoma.[369] The 3-year and 5-year OS rates were 65% and 55%, respectively, in both groups. The 5-year PFS rate was 44% in both groups. In the INT-0133 study, which compared the 3-drug regimen (cisplatin, doxorubicin, and methotrexate) with the 4-drug regimen (cisplatin, doxorubicin, methotrexate, and ifosfamide) for the treatment of patients with non-metastatic resectable osteosarcoma, there was no difference in the 6-year EFS (63% and 64%, respectively) and OS (74% and 70%, respectively) between the two groups.[375]

Chemotherapy regimens without doxorubicin or cisplatin have also been evaluated in patients with localized osteosarcoma with the aim of minimizing long-term cardiotoxicity and ototoxicity.[376,377] In a phase II study, the combination of cisplatin, ifosfamide, and epirubicin was active and reasonably well tolerated in patients with nonmetastatic extremity osteosarcoma.[376] With a median follow-up of 64 months, the 5-year DFS and OS rates were 41.9% and 48.2%, respectively. In another randomized multicenter trial (SFOP-OS94), the combination of ifosfamide and etoposide resulted in a higher histologic response rate than the regimen containing high-dose methotrexate and doxorubicin (56% and 39%, respectively). However, the 5-year OS was similar in both arms and there was no significant difference in 5-year EFS rates.[377]

Good histopathologic response (greater than 90% necrosis) to neoadjuvant chemotherapy has been shown to be predictive of survival regardless of the type of chemotherapy administered after surgery.[248,378,379] In an analysis of 881 patients with non-metastatic osteosarcoma of the extremities treated with neoadjuvant chemotherapy and surgery at the Rizzoli Institute, Bacci et al showed that the 5-year DFS and OS correlated significantly with histologic response to chemotherapy.[380] The 5-year DFS and OS in good and poor responders were 67.9% vs. 51.3% ($P < .0001$) and 78.4% vs. 63.7% ($P < .0001$), respectively. A report from the Children's Oncology Group also confirmed these findings; the 8-year postoperative EFS and OS rates were 81% and 87%, respectively, in good responders.[378] The corresponding survival rates were 46% and 52%, respectively, in poor responders.

The addition of muramyl tripeptide phosphatidylethanolamine (MTP-PE) to chemotherapy has also been evaluated in patients with osteosarcoma.[375,381] The addition of MTP-PE to chemotherapy was associated with a statistically significant improvement in 6-year OS (70%–78%) and a trend toward better EFS in patients with non-metastatic resectable osteosarcoma.[375] However, the improvement was not statistically different in patients with metastatic disease.[381] MTP-PE is not approved by the FDA for the treatment of patients with osteosarcoma.

Localized Disease

The guidelines recommend wide excision as the primary treatment for patients with low-grade (intramedullary and surface) osteosarcomas and periosteal lesions. Chemotherapy prior to wide excision could be considered for patients with periosteal lesions. If pathologic high-grade disease is discovered after wide excision, adjuvant chemotherapy is a category 2A recommendation. Although chemotherapy (neoadjuvant or adjuvant) has been used in the treatment of patients with periosteal osteosarcoma, there are no data to support that the addition of chemotherapy to wide excision improves outcome in patients with periosteal osteosarcoma.[382,383] In a review of 119 patients with periosteal sarcoma published by the European Musculo-Skeletal Oncology Society, the use of neoadjuvant chemotherapy was not a prognostic factor, although it was used in the majority of the patients.[383] Cesari and colleagues also reported similar findings; the 10-year OS rate was 86% and 83%, respectively, for patients who received adjuvant chemotherapy with surgery and for those who underwent surgery alone (P = .73).[382] Long-term results (>25 years of follow-up) from patients with high-grade, localized osteosarcoma reveal significant benefits of adjuvant chemotherapy on DFS and OS.[379]

Preoperative chemotherapy prior to wide excision is preferred for those with high-grade osteosarcoma (category 1).[354,368-370,373-377,384] Repeat imaging using pretreatment imaging modalities should be used to reassess the tumor for resectability. Selected elderly patients may benefit from immediate surgery.

Following wide excision, patients whose disease has a good histologic response (amount of viable tumor is less than 10% of the tumor area) should continue to receive several more cycles of the same chemotherapy. Surgical re-resection with or without RT can be considered for positive surgical margins. In a study of 119 patients with osteosarcoma of the head and neck, combined modality treatment with surgery and RT (vs. surgery alone) improved local control and OS for patients with positive or uncertain surgical margins.[385] Combined photon/proton or proton beam RT has been shown to be effective for local control in some patients with unresectable or incompletely resected osteosarcoma.[386,387]

Patients whose disease has a poor response (viable tumor is ≥10% of the tumor area) could be considered for chemotherapy with a different regimen (category 3). However, attempts to improve the outcome of poor responders by modifying the adjuvant chemotherapy remain unsuccessful.[388-392] Upon review of the evidence for the 2018 update, this recommendation was changed from category 2B to category 3. Recent data from the European and American Osteosarcoma Study (EURAMOS) Group trial[389,393] informing this panel decision are discussed below.

An ongoing randomized phase III trial of the EURAMOS Group is evaluating treatment strategies for resectable osteosarcoma based on histologic response to preoperative chemotherapy. RT or adjuvant chemotherapy is recommended if the sarcoma remains unresectable following preoperative chemotherapy. The EURAMOS-1 trial included cohorts that received maintenance therapy with MAP (methotrexate/cisplatin/doxorubicin); MAP with pegylated IFN-α-2b therapy; or MAP with ifosfamide and etoposide (MAPIE). The addition of maintenance pegylated IFN-α-2b therapy to MAP in the adjuvant setting did not improve outcomes for “good responders” to preoperative chemotherapy.[393] However, the authors note that a significant portion of patients in the IFN arm did not receive the intended dose of IFN-α-2b due to failure to initiate therapy or premature termination of therapy. Additionally, adding ifosfamide and etoposide to MAP (ie, MAPIE) failed to improve outcomes for “poor responders” to preoperative chemotherapy.[389]

Chemotherapy should include appropriate growth factor support. See the NCCN Guidelines for Hematopoietic Growth Factors for growth factor

support. See *Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents* in the algorithm for a list of specific chemotherapy regimens.

Metastatic Disease at Presentation

Approximately 10% to 20% of patients present with metastatic disease at diagnosis.[23,394] The number of metastases at diagnosis and complete surgical resection of all clinically detected tumor sites are of independent prognostic value in patients with primary metastatic disease at presentation.[23] Unilateral metastases and lower number of lung nodules were associated with improved outcomes with chemotherapy in patients with synchronous lung metastases.[354,355] The 2-year DFS rate was significantly higher for patients with only one or two metastatic lesions than for patients with 3 or more lesions (78% and 28%, respectively).[354]

Although chemotherapy is associated with improved outcomes in patients with non-metastatic, high-grade, localized osteosarcoma, the results were significantly poorer in patients with metastatic disease at presentation.[394-397] In a study of 57 patients with metastatic disease at presentation treated with cisplatin, doxorubicin, and high dose of methotrexate and ifosfamide, the 2-year EFS and OS rates were 21% and 55%, respectively, compared to 75% and 94% in patients with non-metastatic disease at presentation, treated with the same chemotherapy protocol.[396] High-dose ifosfamide plus etoposide was examined in a phase II/III trial of 43 patients with newly diagnosed metastatic osteosarcoma, revealing an ORR of 59% ± 8%, but considerable toxicity.[398]

Among patients with primary metastases treated in cooperative osteosarcoma trials, long-term survival rates were higher for patients whose metastases were excised following chemotherapy and surgery of the primary tumor compared to those patients whose metastases could not be removed (48% and 5%, respectively).[399] The combination of aggressive chemotherapy with simultaneous resection of primary and metastatic lesions has also resulted in improved outcomes in patients with osteosarcoma of the extremity with lung metastases at presentation.[400]

For patients with resectable metastases (pulmonary, visceral, or skeletal) at presentation, the guidelines recommend preoperative chemotherapy followed by wide excision of the primary tumor. Chemotherapy and metastasectomy are included as options for the management of metastatic disease. Unresectable metastatic disease should be managed with chemotherapy and/or RT followed by reassessment of the primary site for local control.

Surveillance

Once treatment is completed, surveillance should occur every 3 months for 2 years, then every 4 months for year 3, then every 6 months for years 4 and 5, and annually thereafter. Surveillance should include a complete physical, chest imaging, and imaging of the primary site as performed during initial disease workup. Head-to-toe PET/CT and/or bone scan (category 2B) may also be considered. Functional reassessment should be performed at every visit.

Relapsed or Refractory Disease

About 30% of patients with localized disease and 80% of the patients presenting with metastatic disease will relapse. The presence of solitary metastases, time to first relapse, and complete resectability of the disease at first recurrence have been reported to be the most important prognostic indicators for improved survival, whereas patients not amenable to surgery and those with a second or a third recurrence have a poor prognosis.[401-406] In patients with primary non-metastatic osteosarcoma, a longer relapse-free interval to pulmonary metastases was significantly associated with better survival.[404] The prognostic significance of surgical clearance among patients with second and subsequent recurrences was also

confirmed in a report of survival estimates derived from large cohorts of unselected patients treated at the COSS group trials.[407]

The combination of etoposide with cyclophosphamide or ifosfamide has been evaluated in clinical trials.[255,408,409] In a phase II trial of the French Society of Pediatric Oncology, high-dose ifosfamide and etoposide resulted in a response rate of 48% in patients with relapsed or refractory osteosarcoma.[409] In another phase II trial, cyclophosphamide and etoposide resulted in a 19% response rate and 35% rate of stable disease in patients with relapsed high-risk osteosarcoma.[408] PFS at 4 months was 42%.

Single-agent gemcitabine and combination regimens such as docetaxel and gemcitabine; cyclophosphamide and topotecan; or ifosfamide, carboplatin, and etoposide have also been effective in the treatment of patients with relapsed or refractory bone sarcomas.[256,259,263,410,411]

Samarium-153 ethylenediamine tetramethylene phosphonate (Sm 153-EDTMP) is a beta-particle–emitting, bone-seeking radiopharmaceutical, and has been evaluated in patients with locally recurrent or metastatic osteosarcoma or skeletal metastases.[412,413] Andersen et al have reported that Sm 153-EDTMP with peripheral blood progenitor cell support had low non-hematologic toxicity and provided pain palliation for patients with osteosarcoma local recurrences or osteoblastic bone metastases.[412] Results of a dose-finding study also demonstrated that Sm 153-EDTMP can be effective in the treatment of patients with high-risk osteosarcoma.[413]

Radium-223 dichloride (Ra 223) is a bone-seeking, alpha-particle–emitting radiopharmaceutical that is under early-stage investigation for treating metastatic or recurrent osteosarcoma.[414] This agent is approved in the United States for treating bone metastases associated with castration-resistant prostate cancer. Preliminary studies suggest that this agent is active in osteosarcoma and may have less marrow toxicity and greater efficacy than beta-particle–emitting radiopharmaceuticals such as Sm 153-EDTMP.[414,415]

Targeted inhibition of a variety of molecular pathways such as mTOR, SRC family of kinases, and vascular endothelial growth factor receptors (VEGFRs) are being evaluated in clinical trials to improve outcomes in patients with relapsed or refractory osteosarcoma. In a phase II trial of the Italian Sarcoma Group (n = 30), sorafenib (VEGFR inhibitor) demonstrated activity in patients with relapsed and unresectable high-grade osteosarcoma after failure of standard multimodal therapy.[416] The PFS at 4 months (primary endpoint) was 46%. Median PFS and OS were 4 months and 7 months, respectively. The CBR (defined as no progression at 6 months) was 29%. Partial response and stable disease were seen in 8% and 34% of patients, respectively, and were durable for 6 months or more in 17% of patients.

To extend the duration of activity, a study examined sorafenib combined with everolimus for patients with unresectable or relapsed high-grade osteosarcoma (n = 38).[417] Data suggested that this regimen is active in the second-line setting, but toxicity required dose reductions and/or treatment interruptions in 66% of patients. Therefore, the NCCN Bone Panel no longer recommends sorafenib combined with everolimus as a second-line option for patients with osteosarcoma.

The safety and efficacy of HDT/SCT in patients with locally advanced, metastatic, or relapsed osteosarcoma have also been evaluated.[418,419] In the Italian Sarcoma Group study, treatment with carboplatin and etoposide was followed by stem cell rescue, combined with surgery-induced complete response in chemosensitive disease.[419] Transplant-related mortality was 3.1%. The 3-year OS and DFS rates were 20% and 12%, respectively. The efficacy of this approach in patients with high-risk disease is yet to be determined in prospective randomized studies.

The optimal treatment strategy for patients with relapsed or refractory disease has yet to be defined. If relapse occurs, the patient should receive second-line chemotherapy and/or surgical resection when feasible, followed by imaging to assess treatment response. Based on the results of the phase II trial, the guidelines have included sorafenib as a systemic therapy option for patients with relapsed disease.[416] See the *Bone Cancer Systemic Therapy Agents* in the algorithm for a list of other second-line chemotherapy regimens. Surveillance is recommended for patients with disease that is responding to second-line therapy.

Patients with disease progression or relapse after second-line therapy could be managed with resection, palliative RT (that may include Ra 223 and Sm 153-EDTMP), or best supportive care. Participation in a clinical trial should be strongly encouraged.

High-Grade Undifferentiated Pleomorphic Sarcoma of Bone

High-grade UPS of the bone most frequently arises in the appendicular skeleton and is associated with both a high rate of local recurrence and local nodal and distal metastases.[420] The addition of chemotherapy to surgery has been shown to improve clinical outcomes in patients with nonmetastatic malignant fibrous histiocytoma (MFH).[421-423] In the European Osteosarcoma Intergroup study, adjuvant or neoadjuvant chemotherapy with doxorubicin and cisplatin resulted in good pathologic response rates and survival (quite comparable with those for osteosarcoma) in patients with nonmetastatic MFH.[423] Median survival time was 63 months, and the 5-year PFS and OS rates were 56% and 59%, respectively. The guidelines recommend that patients with high-grade UPS of bone should be managed with regimens listed for osteosarcoma.

Immunotherapy for Bone Cancer

Immunotherapies harness the immune system to attack and destroy tumors. New cancer therapies are based on what we know about immune regulation and immune system checkpoints. The immune system is hardwired to regulate itself to maintain self-tolerance, ensuring that no unnecessary damage is done to harm the body after responding to a foreign antigen. For example, some immune cells upregulate cell surface molecules, such as the well-characterized cytotoxic T-lymphocyte–associated protein 4 (CTLA-4) and programmed cell death protein 1 pathway (PD-1/PD-L1), which serve as immune checkpoints that regulate the activation and function of T cells. The self-tolerance enabled by these molecules and other mechanisms is also employed by cancer cells to evade recognition by the immune system. Immune checkpoint blockade used as cancer therapies reverse T-cell tolerance by blocking inhibitory interactions between tumor cells and infiltrating T cells, thus allowing an antitumor immune response.[424-426]

Identifying patients whose disease will respond to checkpoint blockade has been difficult to assess, partly due to the difficulty in measuring dynamic immune-related molecules.[427] Determining tumor mutational burden has helped predict responsiveness to checkpoint inhibitors.[428,429] A high tumor mutation load was also associated with genetic alterations, such as microsatellite instability (MSI), that may lead to dysregulation in DNA repair mechanisms.[430] A recent study analyzing genomes in over 100 tumor types found that a mutational hotspot in the promoter of a DNA mismatch repair (MMR) gene is associated with high tumor mutational load.[428] Cases of high mutation load have been identified in most cancer types and may identify patients who could benefit from immunotherapy.

A study pioneered in patients with advanced colorectal cancer with genomic instability and high tumor mutational burden found responsiveness to anti-PD-1 therapy correlated to MMR deficiency

(dMMR).[431] A recent prospective study to evaluate the efficacy of PD-1 blockade in 86 patients with 12 different advanced cancers with dMMR, including osteosarcoma, found that treatment with pembrolizumab resulted in durable responses (ORR in 53% of patients, with 21% complete response). While median PFS and OS have not yet been reached, estimates of these outcomes at 1- and 2-year survival are 64% and 53% for PFS and 76% and 64% for OS.[432]

The FDA has granted accelerated approval to pembrolizumab, a PD-1–blocking antibody used as a systemic treatment option for adult and pediatric patients with unresectable or metastatic MSI-high (MSI-H) or dMMR solid tumors that have progressed following prior treatment and who have no satisfactory alternative treatment options.[433] NCCN recommends this treatment for patients with MSI-H/dMMR chondrosarcomas, Ewing sarcomas, and osteosarcomas. NCCN does not recommend this systemic treatment for GCTB since it is not technically a malignant tumor, nor does it recommend this treatment for chordomas due to limited evidence for the presence of MSI in this tumor type.

A multicenter, phase 2 trial of patients who were members of the Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration (SARC028) studied pembrolizumab in patients with advanced soft tissue and bone sarcoma who were 12 years or older. Objective responses were achieved in 4 of 10 (40%) patients with UPS, 1 of 22 (5%) patients with osteosarcoma, and 1 of 5 (20%) patients with chondrosarcoma. None of the 13 patients with Ewing sarcoma had an objective response.[434]

Summary

Primary bone cancers are extremely rare neoplasms. Osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, and Ewing sarcoma are the 3 most common forms of primary bone cancers. High-grade UPS, chordoma, and GCTB are very rare.

Chondrosarcoma is usually found in middle-aged and older adults. Wide excision is the preferred treatment for resectable low- and high-grade chondrosarcomas. Intralesional excision with or without surgical adjuvant is an alternative option for less radiographically aggressive, non-pelvic, low-grade chondrosarcomas. Proton and/or photon beam RT may be useful for patients with chondrosarcomas of the skull base and axial skeleton with tumors in unfavorable location not amenable to resection. Chemotherapy has no role in the management of patients with chondrosarcoma, apart from the mesenchymal and dedifferentiated subtypes, or for metastatic chondrosarcoma.

Chordomas arise from the embryonic remnants of the notochord and are more common in older adults. For patients with resectable conventional or chondroid chordomas, wide excision with or without RT is the primary treatment option for chordomas of the sacrum and mobile spine, whereas intralesional excision with or without RT is the treatment of choice for skull base tumors. Adjuvant RT can be considered for large extracompartmental tumors or for positive surgical margins following resection. RT is the primary treatment option for patients with unresectable chordomas, irrespective of the location of the tumor. Systemic therapy (alone or in combination with surgery or RT) is recommended for patients with recurrent tumors. Dedifferentiated chordomas are usually managed as described in the NCCN Guidelines for Soft Tissue Sarcoma.

Ewing sarcoma develops mainly in children and young adults. *EWS-FLI1* fusion gene resulting from t(11;22) chromosomal translocation is the cytogenetic abnormality in the majority of patients. Multiagent chemotherapy is the primary treatment and patients with disease that responds to primary treatment are treated with local control therapy (wide excision, definitive RT with chemotherapy, or amputation in selected cases) followed by adjuvant chemotherapy. Adjuvant chemotherapy following wide excision or amputation is recommended for all patients

regardless of surgical margins. Progressive disease is best managed with RT with or without surgery followed by chemotherapy or best supportive care.

GCTB is the most common benign bone tumor predominant in young adults. Intralesional excision with or without an effective adjuvant is an adequate primary treatment for resectable tumors. Denosumab, serial embolizations, IFN, and RT are included as primary treatment options for patients with lesions that are resectable with acceptable morbidity or unresectable axial lesions. The guidelines recommend continuation of denosumab until disease progression in responding disease.

Osteosarcoma occurs mainly in children and young adults. Wide excision is the primary treatment for patients with low-grade osteosarcomas, whereas preoperative chemotherapy followed by wide excision is the preferred option for patients with high-grade osteosarcoma. Chemotherapy prior to wide excision can be considered for patients with periosteal lesions. Following wide excision, postoperative chemotherapy is recommended for patients with low-grade or periosteal sarcomas with pathologic findings of high-grade disease and those with high-grade sarcoma. RT followed by adjuvant chemotherapy is recommended if the sarcoma remains unresectable after preoperative chemotherapy. Patients with relapsed or refractory disease should be treated with second-line therapy. Progressive disease is managed with surgery, palliative RT, or best supportive care. Preoperative chemotherapy followed by wide excision of the primary and metastatic tumors is recommended for patients with resectable metastases. Chemotherapy and metastasectomy are included as options for the management of metastatic disease.

Consistent with the NCCN philosophy, the panel encourages patients to participate in well-designed clinical trials to enable further advances.

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