

## Summary

<b>Title</b>	
	<b>Diagnostic pathway for soft tissue sarcomas</b>
<b>Aims</b>	Distribution of the agreed pathway for referral of suspected soft tissue sarcomas to the Oxford Sarcoma Service.
<b>Issued by</b>	Oxford Sarcoma Advisory Group (OSAG)
<b>As agreed by</b>	OSAG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core members</li> <li>• Trust Sarcoma Clinical Lead</li> <li>• Oxford Sarcoma MDT</li> </ul>
<b>Author</b>	OSAG
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<b>Date of next review</b>	March 2028
<b>Available at</b>	<a href="https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/oxfordsarcomaservice/osag/">https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/oxfordsarcomaservice/osag/</a>

## Diagnostic pathway for soft tissue sarcomas

### Introduction

This pathway refers to the care of patients within the Oxford Sarcoma Network with suspected or confirmed soft tissue sarcomas.

The aim of the pathway is to ensure patients receive appropriate and timely care from teams with the appropriate diagnostic and treatment expertise.

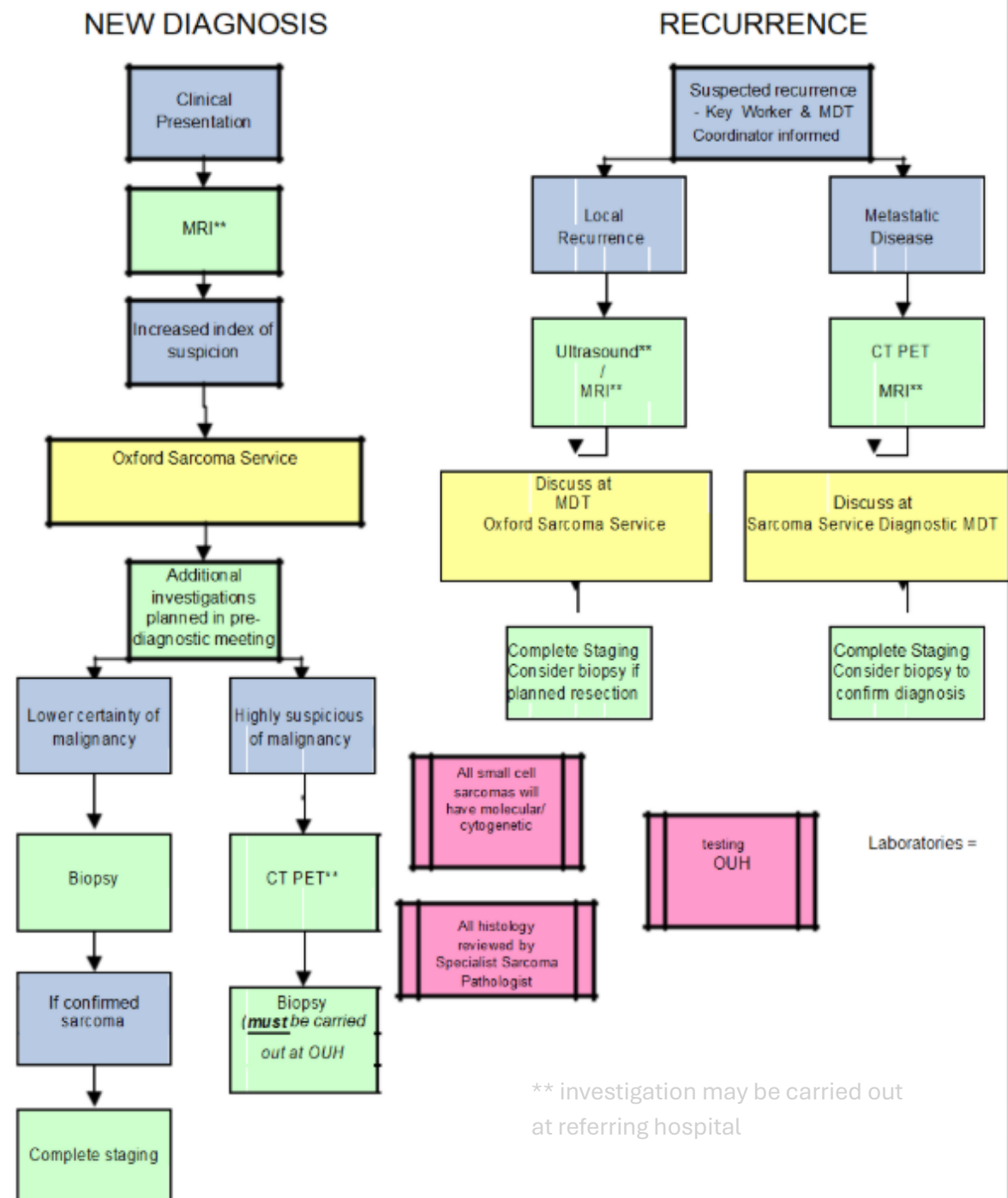
### Principles of the service

- All people with a suspected or confirmed diagnosis of sarcoma must be referred to a Specialist Sarcoma Centre for multidisciplinary team (MDT) discussion.
- The principal role of a Sarcoma MDT is to determine a care plan for all people with bone and soft tissue sarcoma and to be responsible for its delivery either by members based at the Specialist Sarcoma Centre or by designated practitioners working at Local Sarcoma Units or by Children/Teenage and Young Adult Principal Treatment Centres following care pathways agreed by the Sarcoma Advisory group
- Pathology for all sarcomas must be reviewed by a Specialist Sarcoma Pathologist for diagnostic confirmation and undertaking any appropriate molecular analysis and genomic testing
- Sarcoma services must be structured and managed to reduce the number of unplanned excisions or excisions undertaken outside a specialist centre
- All resections of sarcomas are undertaken by surgeons who are core or designated members of the Sarcoma MDT.

### Take home messages

- The default position is that patients with suspected or confirmed primary bone or soft tissue tumours should be referred as soon as possible to the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre for diagnosis and surgical treatment as soon as possible
- All patients with confirmed bone or soft tissue must be discussed in the Oxford Sarcoma Service MDT to plan appropriate multidisciplinary care. Discussion should take place before treatment unless clinical urgency means this is not possible.
- In clinically urgent cases, the treating clinician should discuss the proposed intervention with other appropriate members of the MDT if possible.

Pathways/Guidance



- This pathway applies to patients of all ages except children. For all non-rhabdomyosarcomatous soft tissue sarcomas and extremity rhabdomyosarcomas in children discussion with the sarcoma MDT is strongly encouraged when diagnosis is suspected or recently established
- Patients under 25 will also be referred to the teenage and young adults or paediatrics MDTs as appropriate.
- This pathway applies to new diagnosis and recurrences

Key:

- MDT discussion
- Clinic/Diagnostics/Treatment
- Process
- Important information

<b>Points of Contact</b>
<b>General referral information</b>
<a href="https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/oxfordsarcomaservice/referrals/">https://www.ouh.nhs.uk/oxfordsarcomaservice/referrals/</a>
<b>Email</b>
<a href="mailto:sarcoma.referrals@ouh.nhs.uk">sarcoma.referrals@ouh.nhs.uk</a>
<b>Sarcoma Office Telephone</b>
01865 738061
<b>Emergent/Clinically urgent cases</b>
For direct discussion with Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre Registrar/Fellow on call available through hospital switchboard: 0300 304 7777.