SARCOMA
SOFT TISSUE & BONE

SARCOMA FOUNDATION of AMERICA

ESTIMATED DIAGNOSES OF SARCOMA IN THE US IN 2024: 17,560

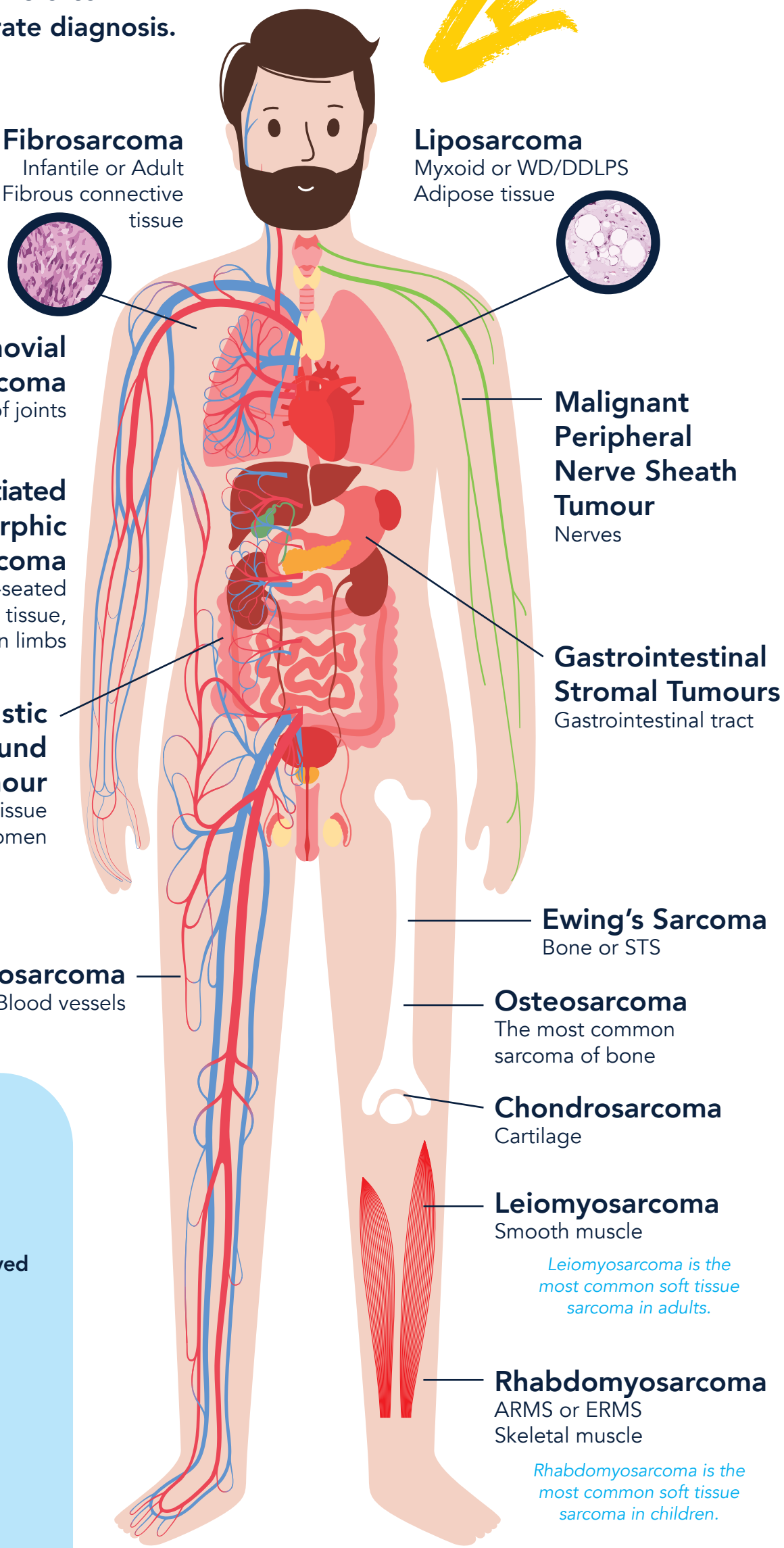
Sarcoma accounts for 1% of adult cancers in the US and 15-20% of childhood cancers. At any one time, more than 220,000 patients and their families are struggling with sarcoma. Due to its rarity, sarcoma is often misdiagnosed or there is a delay in accurate diagnosis.

There are 130 types of sarcoma. Sarcoma originates in connective tissue all around the body: muscles, fat, fibrous tissue, linings of joints, nerves, tendons, blood vessels, bones and cartilage.

Soft tissue sarcomas (STS) are commonly found in the abdomen, extremities, and head and neck. Overall survival for soft tissue sarcoma depends on many factors, especially whether the tumor is localized or has spread and whether it can be surgically removed. The five year survival rate for localized STS is 81%, locally advanced is 56%, and metastatic is 16%. Once a sarcoma has spread to other parts of the body, it is often incurable with currently available treatments.

Common malignant subtypes include leiomyosarcoma, liposarcoma, and undifferentiated pleomorphic sarcoma. The most common type of STS in children is rhabdomyosarcoma.

Bone sarcomas can be skeletal or extraskeletal. The most common bone sarcoma is osteosarcoma. Other bone sarcomas include chondrosarcoma, chordoma, and Ewing sarcoma. In children and young adults most bone sarcomas occur around the knee or proximal humerus.



SYMPTOMS

- **A lump – especially one larger than the size of a golf ball or with intermittent pain that may or may not worsen at night**
- **Lump of any size located deep within a muscle**
- **Recurring lump in same location after being removed**
- **Swelling, which may start weeks after the pain**
- **Development of a limp (if in the leg)**
- **Blood in stool or vomit**

DIAGNOSIS

Scans (x-ray, Ultrasound, CT, PET, MRI)
Biopsy – definitive way to diagnose

TREATMENT

Surgery • Chemotherapy • Radiation • Targeted Therapy • Thermal Ablation • Immunotherapy

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