Introduction to Orthopedic Oncology

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Musculoskeletal Tumors are rare types of tumors when compared to all types of tumors that occur throughout the body.

Most musculoskeletal tumors originate from mesenchymal type tissue or from cells that are derived from mesoderm.

An embryo or fetus is composed of three layers of cells: Ectoderm (outer layer); Mesoderm (middle layer); Endoderm (inner layer).

The mesoderm is the layer that normally forms all of the connective tissues in the body, including bone, muscle, cartilage, fibrous tissue, tendons, ligaments, blood vessels, nerves, blood cells.
Classification of Musculoskeletal Tumors

- When uncontrolled division or growth of a mesodermal or mesenchymal cell occurs it results in the production of a tumor.

- These mesodermal tumors can form tissue that resemble normal mesodermal tissues like bone (osteoid), cartilage or fibrous tissue.

- Hence, these tumors are often named according to the normal type of mesodermal tissue that they resemble or the type of tissue they are producing.

- There are both benign and malignant (cancerous) types of tumors. Cancerous types of mesenchymal or mesodermal tumors are termed Sarcomas.
Classification of Musculoskeletal Tumors

- For example, bone producing (osteoid producing) tumors fall into the category of Osseous Tumors. A type of benign osseous tumor is called an Osteoblastoma. The malignant or cancerous type of Osseous Tumor is called an Osteosarcoma.

- Similarly, a type of benign cartilage producing tumor is called an Enchondroma. A malignant cartilage producing tumor is called a Chondrosarcoma.

- Mesenchymal or Mesodermal tumors can arise from muscle or the soft tissues of an extremity or from bone. For example, an Osteosarcoma which is a malignant bone producing tumor can originate from either a bone or from muscle or from the soft tissues in between the muscles. It more commonly arises from a bone but can also arise from a muscle. Although it produces bone itself, it does not have to develop from bone and can also develop from soft tissues.
Classification of Musculoskeletal Tumors

- Similarly, a Fibrosarcoma is a malignant fibrous tissue producing tumor. Fibrous tissue is typically thought of as a soft tissue of the body. Fibrosarcoma most commonly arises from the soft tissue of the body but can also originate from a bone.

- Tumors that arise from the endodermal or ectodermal cells of the body usually do not originate from the bones or soft tissues of the body. They usually involve the musculoskeletal system by spreading or metastasizing to a bone or muscle. These types of malignant or cancerous tumors are termed Carcinomas. Carcinomas constitute more common tumors like breast, prostate, kidney, lung, thyroid, gastrointestinal cancers.
Classification of Musculoskeletal Tumors

The next three slides demonstrate a general classification scheme for mesenchymal tumors and sarcomas that originate from the musculoskeletal system, bones and soft tissues.

It is important to memorize these classification systems.
# Bone Tumors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Benign</th>
<th>Malignant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Osseous</td>
<td>Osteoma&lt;br&gt;Osteoid Osteoma&lt;br&gt;Osteoblastoma</td>
<td>Osteosarcoma&lt;br&gt;Intramedullary</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Conventional&lt;br&gt;Telangiectatic&lt;br&gt;Low Grade Intraosseous</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Juxtacortical/ Surface&lt;br&gt;Parosteal&lt;br&gt;Periosteal&lt;br&gt;High Grade Surface</td>
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<td>Intracortical&lt;br&gt;Secondary osteosarcoma&lt;br&gt;Paget’s Osteosarcoma&lt;br&gt;Radiation Induced&lt;br&gt;Bone Infarct&lt;br&gt;Osteogenesis Imperfecta</td>
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<td>Cartilaginous</td>
<td>Enchondroma&lt;br&gt;Chondroblastoma&lt;br&gt;Chondromyxofibroma</td>
<td>Chondrosarcoma&lt;br&gt;Conventional/Intramedullary&lt;br&gt;Clear cell&lt;br&gt;Mesenchymal&lt;br&gt;Dedifferentiated&lt;br&gt;Juxtacortical/Periosteal&lt;br&gt;Secondary&lt;br&gt;Osteochondroma&lt;br&gt;Multiple Enchondromas&lt;br&gt;Ollier’s disease&lt;br&gt;Maffucci’s Syndrome</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fibrous</td>
<td>Fibrous dysplasia&lt;br&gt;Fibrocartilaginous Dysplasia&lt;br&gt;Osteofibrous Dysplasia&lt;br&gt;Non Ossifying Fibroma&lt;br&gt;Benign Fibrous Histiocytoma&lt;br&gt;Fibroxanthoma&lt;br&gt;Desmoplastic Fibroma (Desmoid/Fibromatosis)</td>
<td>Fibrosarcoma&lt;br&gt;Malignant Fibrous Histiocytoma</td>
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<td>Small Round Blue Cell</td>
<td>Eosinophilic Granuloma&lt;br&gt;Infection</td>
<td>Ewing’s Sarcoma/PNET&lt;br&gt;Lymphoma&lt;br&gt;Multiple Myeloma</td>
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<td>Giant Cell</td>
<td>Giant Cell Tumor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Category</td>
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<td>Malignant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vascular</td>
<td>Hemangioma, Lymphangioma, Glomus Tumor</td>
<td>Hemangioendothelioma, Angiosarcoma,</td>
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<td>Hemangiopericytoma, Kaposi’s sarcoma</td>
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<td>Neurogenic</td>
<td>Schwannoma</td>
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<td>Cystic</td>
<td>Aneurysmal Bone Cyst, Primary ABC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Secondary ABC</td>
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<td>Unicameral Bone Cyst</td>
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<td>Intraosseous Ganglion</td>
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<td>Myogenic</td>
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<td>Leiomysarcoma, Rhabdomyosarcoma</td>
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<td>Lipoma, Parosteal Lipoma</td>
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<td>Chondroid Chordoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Metastatic Lesions</td>
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<td>Lung, Breast, Kidney, Thyroid, Prostate,</td>
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<td>Gastrointestinal</td>
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<td>Synovial</td>
<td>Chondromatosis, Pigmented Villonodular</td>
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<td>synovitis, Synovial lipoma, Hemangioma</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chondrosarcoma</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Category</td>
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<td>Malignant</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fibrous/Myofibroblastic</td>
<td>Fibromatosis/Desmoid Elastofibroma Solitary Fibrous Tumor</td>
<td>Fibrosarcoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fibrohistiocytic</td>
<td>Benign Fibrous Histiocytoma MFH</td>
<td>Pleomorphic Myxoid Inflammatory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lipomatous</td>
<td>Lipoma</td>
<td>Liposarcoma Well Differentiated Myxoid Round Cell Pleomorphic</td>
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<td>Smooth Muscle</td>
<td>Leiomyoma</td>
<td>Leiomyosarcoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skeletal Muscle</td>
<td>Rhabdomyoma</td>
<td>Rhabdomyosarcoma Embryonal Alveolar Pleomorphic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vascular</td>
<td>Hemangioma</td>
<td>Hemangiendothelioma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synovial</td>
<td>PVNS GCT Tendon Sheath</td>
<td>Malignant PVNS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neural</td>
<td>Schwannoma</td>
<td>Malignant Peripheral Nerve Sheath Tumor MPNST</td>
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<td>Extraskeletal Osseous/Cartilaginous</td>
<td>Myositis Ossificans Chondroma</td>
<td>Osteosarcoma Chondrosarcoma Myxoid Mesenchymal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>Myxoma</td>
<td>Clear Cell Sarcoma Synovial Sarcoma Alveolar soft Part Sarcoma Epithelioid Sarcoma Ewing’s Sarcoma/PNET Dermophytic Small Cell Tumor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Normal Tissues vs Tumors

- In order to be able to diagnose abnormal tissue or a tumor/cancer, it is important to understand the microscopic characteristics of the normal tissues of the body.
- The normal tissues of the body consist of epithelial tissue, connective tissue, muscle and nervous tissue. They each have a characteristic microscopic appearance.
- In general, normal tissues have an orderly arrangement of cells. The cells are similar size and shape. The tissue is hypocellular. The nucleus is small. There are no mitotic figures. There are no necrotic or dead areas in the tissue.
- Tumors usually demonstrate a haphazard or disorderly arrangement of cells. The cells are usually different sizes and shapes (cellular pleomorphism). The nuclei are usually large and there is usually less cytoplasm than in a normal cell. There may be mitotic figures in malignant/cancerous tumors. There may also be necrotic or dead areas associated with cancerous tumors. Malignant tumors have more bizarre features than benign tumors, more haphazard arrangement, more pleomorphism.
Benign/Normal Tissue

- Hypocellular (Low Cellularity/High Matrix)
- Cells Arranged in an Orderly Manner
- No Mitoses
- Low Nuclear to Cytoplasmic Ratio (Small Nuclei)
- Uniform Nuclei
- Minimal to No Cellular Pleomorphism
Malignant Tumors

- Hypercellular (Low Matrix)
- Cellular Pleomorphism
- Mitoses
- High Nuclear/Cytoplasmic Ratio (Large Nuclei/Minimal Cytoplasm)
- Dark Nuclei
- Haphazard Arrangement of Cells
- Crowding of Cells
- Necrosis
Normal Tissues

4 Tissue Types in the Body

- Epithelial Tissue
- Connective Tissue
  - Bone
  - Cartilage
  - Fibrous Connective Tissue
  - Tendons, Ligaments
  - Fat
  - Fascia covering muscle, nerves and blood vessels
  - Blood Cells
- Muscle
- Nervous Tissue
Epithelial Tissue

- Closely packed cells with little or no intercellular material in extracellular space
- Form membranes or occur as secretory elements known as glands; Also forms the skin.
- Classification of types of epithelial tissue:
  - Squamous, Cuboidal, Columnar
  - Simple (single layer)
  - Stratified (2 or more layers)
- Stratified Squamous Epithelium
- Normal
- Very Orderly Arranged
- Cells neatly stacked on top of each other
- Minimal cellular pleomorphism
- Uniform nuclei
- Abundant cytoplasm
Normal Kidney

- The kidney is composed of simple cuboidal epithelium that forms tubules.
- The cells are arranged orderly and are not packed on top of each other. The cells look similar and have abundant cytoplasm. “L” is the lumen of the tubule where the fluid/urine passes. “N” is a nucleus.
Epithelial Tissue

- **Glands**
  - Most glands are formed by epithelial down growths into connective tissue.
  - The next three slides are examples of normal glands formed by epithelial cells.
  - The cells typically form round tubular like structures with a lumen. The cells of a gland all function together to secrete substances or fluid into the lumen of the gland. In a normal gland the cells are orderly arranged, there may be more than one layer of cells. The nucleus is distinct and the cells are similar in size and shape. Examples of glands include breast, thyroid, prostate, salivary, parathyroid, sweat glands. Uncontrolled growth of these cells can lead to cancers of the breast, prostate, thyroid, etc. These are types of carcinomas.
Kidney Cancer (Renal Cell Carcinoma)

- Notice that the cells are cuboidal or columnar like in shape suggestive of a carcinoma.
- The cells are disorganized and stacked on top of each other; they appear crowded.
- Some cells lack nuclei and some have multiple nuclei.
- The lumen are lacking in certain areas.
- All these characteristics are consistent with a cancerous tumor/carcinoma.
Renal Cell Carcinoma
Examples of Normal Epithelial Type Tissues and Their Cancerous Counterparts

- The following several slides show examples of normal epithelial type tissues and their malignant counterparts.
- Please take notice of the differences in cellular architecture between benign and malignant tumors.
Normal Thyroid Gland

- Normal thyroid
- Orderly arrangement of cells and follicles
- Follicles contain thyroglobulin (pink material)
- No mitoses
- One layer of cells around follicle
Thyroid Cancer

- Cells are crowded and packed on top of each other
- Cellular pleomorphism
- Follicles are arranged haphazard and not all follicles contain thyroglobulin
- Very dark nuclei
Thyroid Carcinoma
Connective Tissue

- Composed mainly of intercellular material (matrix) with a limited number of cells (hypocellular/small number of cells)
- Classified mostly on basis of material components rather than cellular constituents
- Classification:
  - Embryonic Connective Tissue
  - Adult Connective Tissue
Connective Tissue

- Embryonic Connective Tissue
  - Mesenchyme—derived from mesoderm
  - Mucous/Myxoid
Embryonic Connective Tissue

- Cells are spindle shaped or cigar shaped
- The nucleus is large in comparison to the cytoplasm
- These cells are primitive mesenchymal cells that form the connective tissues in the body (bone, cartilage, tendons, ligaments, etc)
- Sarcomas develop from mesenchymal type cells
Myxoid or Mucous Type Tissue

- Myxoid tissue produces a mucous-like substance that is composed of mucopolysaccharides and glycosaminoglycans.
- The tissue stains a bluish color because of the mucous.
- The tissue appears loose and not very dense almost like whisps of cotton candy.
- Notice the low cellularity, small nuclei and slender spindled shape of the cells consistent with benign connective tissue.
Connective Tissue

- Adult Connective Tissue
  - Connective Tissue Proper
    - Loose (areolar)
    - Reticular
    - Adipose
    - Dense Irregular
    - Dense Regular
      - Collagenous
      - Elastic
  - Specialized Connective Tissue
    - Supporting (Bone, Cartilage)
    - Blood
Normal Connective Tissue

- The next three slides demonstrate normal, benign connective tissue. Please take notice of the low cellularity, high matrix content (intercellular material), no mitoses, orderly arrangement of cells, lack of cellular pleomorphism, small nuclei—all characteristics of benign tissue.

- The fourth slide is a sarcoma, derived from a primitive connective tissue cell; it is hypercellular; the nuclei are large and cigar shaped; the cells are crowded and arranged haphazardly; there is disorganization—all characteristics of a cancerous tumor of connective tissue origin or a sarcoma.
Loose Connective Tissue
Dense Irregular Connective Tissue
Dense Regular Connective Tissue
Tendon
Fibrosarcoma / Malignant Spindle Cell Tumor

- Sarcoma—Cancer
- Large Nuclei and Small amount of Cytoplasm
- Nuclear Pleomorphism
- Hypercellular and Crowded
- Disorganized Architecture
- Mitotic Figures
- Small Amount of Matrix
Elastic Connective Tissue

- The dark stained wiry and wavy fibers are elastic (elastin) fibers produced by the fibroblasts.
- Elastofibromas are benign soft tissue tumors that are composed of cells that produce elastin fibers.
Adipose/Fatty Tissue

- The cells of normal mature adipose tissue have a large cytoplasm that contains the lipids.
- The nucleus is small, eccentric and compressed up against the cell membrane.
- There are no mitotic figures.
- The cells appear organized and are similar size and shape.
Adipose/Fat Tissue
Cartilage

3 Types of Cartilage

- Hyaline
  - Articulating surfaces of bone
- Elastic
  - Epiglottis, Ear
- Fibrocartilage
  - Symphyses, eustacian tube, intervertebral discs, tendon insertions
Fetal Chondroblasts of Femur

- Nuclei are Uniform
- Large Nuclei with Plump Cytoplasm
- Appears Organized
- No Mitoses
A chondroblastoma is a benign bone tumor. It is composed of immature chondroblasts that resemble fetal hyaline chondroblasts. They have a thick cell membrane, large, often bean shaped nucleus and plump cytoplasm. The cells are uniform and there are no mitoses.
Cartilage

**Characteristics:**

- Non vascular, strong and pliable
- Matrix: glycosaminoglycans in which fibrous and cellular elements are embedded
- Fibers: collagen or collagen and elastic
- Cells: Chondrocytes embedded in spaces (Lacunae)
- Matrix appears smooth and glassy because the fibers are fine and are masked by the glycosaminoglycans; the orientation of the fibers leads to its glassy appearance under a microscope
- Normal Cartilage is hypocellular; the cells are orderly placed; there are no mitoses
Hyaline Cartilage
Enchondroma

- An enchondroma is a benign bone tumor composed of cartilaginous tissue.
- Cartilage also grows in lobules.
- Cells are in lacunae.
- It is hypocellular.
- Cells are small and orderly placed; Nuclei are small and similar size and shape.
- Matrix stains bluish due to glycosaminoglycans.
Enchondroma
Chondrosarcoma

- In a chondrosarcoma (malignant cartilage tumor) the cells are in lacunae but are large, bizarre in shape and pleomorphic.
- The tumor is hypercellular.
- Cells are crowded.
- There may be mitotic figures.
- The cartilage may entrap or invade bone.
- Binucleated or multinucleated cells often exist.
Enchondroma/Chondrosarcoma
Enchondroma/Chondrosarcoma
Bone

- Vascular Connective Tissue
- Types
  - Dense or Compact (Cortical)
  - Sponge-like or Cancellous
Bone

- **Cells**
  - Osteoblasts—immature cells that make bone
  - Osteocytes—mature cells that maintain bone homeostasis
  - Osteoclasts---mature multinucleated cells that resorb bone
  - Bone is in a constant state of flux where bone is being resorbed by osteoclasts and new bone is being laid down by osteoblasts

- **Osteoid** is immature bone composed of collagen before it becomes calcified. Osteoblasts produce osteoid which is usually laid down on pre-existing bone. The osteoid ultimately becomes calcified and reorganized into a mature form of bone (either trabeculae or becomes incorporated into a haversian system). Bone producing tumors like osteosarcoma, osteoblastoma and osteoid osteoma are characterized by their production of osteoid.
Bone

- A Bone is composed of Cancellous Bone and Cortical Bone.
- Cancellous (Forms medullary canal/in the center of bone where the marrow exists)
  - Large open spaces surrounded by thin anastomosing plates of bone (trabeculae)
Cancellous/Trabecular Bone

- The trabeculae (T) consist of narrow interconnecting plates of bone.
- The bone marrow fills the space between the trabeculae.
- The trabeculae are narrow so they do not need blood vessels in the center of them (The blood vessels are in the marrow).
- \( Ob = \) osteoblast;
- \( Oc = \) osteocyte.
Normal Bone Trabecula

- The Osteoblasts (Ob) are plump and similar size and shape. They have a prominent nucleus. They are laying down osteoid on a pre-existing piece of bone. The osteoid is not calcified and therefore appears as a clear area between the osteoblasts and pre-existing bone (stains red or dark pink).

- The osteoblasts ultimately become incorporated into the bone and become less active. Once they become incorporated into the bone they become the osteocytes (Oc). The osteocytes are smaller, less plump and sit in lacunae (spaces) within the bone.
Bone

- **Compact bone (Cortical bone)**
  - Denser than cancellous bone
  - Organized into lamellae
  - Spaces are small
  - Has blood vessels/haversian systems
  - Cells: Osteoblasts, Osteocytes, Osteoclasts
  - Osteocytes occupy lacunae
  - Osteon (haversian Canal System): Haversian canal with surrounding lamellae of bone containing canaliculi radiating to it from the osteocytes trapped in lacunae
  - Haversian canals: Parallel to long axis; Volkman’s canals connect the haversian canals
Bone

- **Compact Bone (Cortical Bone)**
- **Bony lamellae are organized into 4 lamellar systems:**
  - External circumferential lamellae
  - Internal circumferential lamellae
  - Interstitial lamellae
  - Osteons
Cortical bone is thick and needs blood vessels to distribute the nutrients to all areas and cells. The blood vessels run in the Haversian Canals (HC) and Volkman’s Canals (VC).

The bone is oriented in a circumferential pattern around these canals.

Os = Osteon

L = Lamellae
Cortical/Compact Bone

- Arrows = Cement Line
- Oc = Osteocyte
- Ob = Osteoblast
- BV = Blood Vessel
Osteosarcoma (High Grade)
An osteosarcoma is a high grade sarcoma that produces immature bone or osteoid. The cells are pleomorphic, and spindle shaped like a sarcoma. It is hypercellular and the cells appear crowded and disorganized. The cells are laying down osteoid in a haphazard, disorganized, lace-like manner (arrows; pink lace-like, amorphous substance).
Osteoblastoma
Osteoblastoma

- An osteoblastoma is a benign, bone forming tumor
- There are osteoblasts that appear plump and similar size and shape; no mitoses; no pleomorphism
- The osteoblasts are laying down bone and the bone/osteoid appears to be trying to form a shape like a normal trabecula of bone
Osteosarcoma (Low Grade)

- There are also low grade forms of osteosarcoma in which the cells are less bizarre, smaller and less pleomorphic. There are fewer mitoses. There is usually a fibrous matrix associated with a low grade osteosarcoma.

- The key to diagnosis is identification of the osteoid (arrows).
Bone

Histogenesis (Intramembranous and Endochondral)

- Intramembranous Ossification
  - Arises in richly vascularized mesenchymal membrane
  - Mesenchymal cells differentiate into osteoblasts that elaborate bone matrix and form trabeculae
  - Trabeculae fuse and form cancellous bone
  - Remodeling yields compact bone
  - Primary or woven Bone: Newly formed bone—haphazard arrangement of collagen bundles—not as orderly as older bone
  - Woven bone is replaced via remodeling to form secondary or mature bone
Bone

- **Endochondral Ossification**
  - Responsible for formation of long and short bones
  - Hyaline cartilage model is replaced by bone
  - Invaded by periosteal bud that brings in blood vessels, mesenchymal cells and osteogenic cells
  - Osteoblasts elaborate a bony matrix on calcified cartilage and forms a primary ossification center
  - Secondary ossification center occurs in the epiphysial
Blood

- Erythrocyte
- Lymphocyte
- Monocyte
- Neutrophil
- Eosinophil
- Basophil
- Platelets
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<th></th>
<th>Erythrocyte</th>
<th>Lymphocyte</th>
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<td>50–100</td>
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<td>2–4</td>
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<td>Azurophilic only</td>
<td>Azurophilic and small specific (neutrophilic)</td>
<td>Azurophilic and large specific (eosinophilic)</td>
<td>Azurophilic and large specific (basophilic) granules (heparin and histamine)</td>
<td>Granulomere</td>
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<td>Function</td>
<td>Transport of O₂ and CO₂</td>
<td>Immuno-logic response</td>
<td>Phagocytosis</td>
<td>Phagocytosis</td>
<td>Phagocytosis of antigen-antibody complexes and control of parasitic diseases.</td>
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<td>Agglutination and clotting</td>
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<td>Large, round acentric</td>
<td>Large, kidney-shaped</td>
<td>Polymorphic</td>
<td>Bilobed (sausage-shaped)</td>
<td>Large S-shaped</td>
<td>None</td>
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70 / Blood and Hemopoiesis
Figure 1. **Red Blood Cells. Human.** × 1325.
Red blood cells (arrows) display a central clear region that represents the thinnest area of the biconcave disc. Note that the platelets (arrowheads) possess a central dense region, the granulomere and a peripheral light region, the hyalomere.

Figure 2. **Neutrophils. Human.** × 1325.
Neutrophils display a somewhat granular cytoplasm and lobulated (arrowheads) nuclei.

Figure 3. **Eosinophils. Human.** × 1325.
Eosinophils are recognized by their large pink granules and their sausage-shaped nucleus. Observe the slender connecting link (arrowhead) between the two lobes of the nucleus.

Figure 4. **Basophils. Human.** × 1325.
Basophils are characterized by their dense, dark, large granules.

Figure 5. **Monocytes. Human.** × 1325.
Monocytes are characterized by their large size, acentric, kidney-shaped nucleus, and lack of specific granules.

Figure 6. **Lymphocytes. Human.** × 1325.
Lymphocytes are small cells that possess a single large,acentrically located nucleus, and a narrow rim of light blue cytoplasm.
Plasma Cells
Plasma Cells

- Characteristics:
  - Eccentric Nucleus
  - Perinuclear Halo
  - Plump Cytoplasm (making antibodies)
  - Clockface nucleus
Myeloma (Plasma Cell Cancer)
Myeloma
Myeloma

- Composed of plasma cells
- Cells have similar characteristics to normal plasma cells
Muscle

- Smooth Muscle
- Skeletal Muscle
- Cardiac Muscle
Skeletal Muscle
Skeletal Muscle

- Skeletal muscle has striations that consist of the actin and myosin filaments or contractile elements.
- The nucleus is cigar shaped and sit eccentrically within the cell.
- The majority of the cell consists of the contractile elements.
Skeletal Muscle—Cross Section
Smooth muscle exists in the organs and blood vessels and is responsible for the contractile activities of these structures. For instance, in the digestive tract, it is responsible for propelling food through the tract.

- The nuclei are long and slender/cigar shaped.
- The nuclei of some of the cells have a cork screw appearance indicating that they were actively contracting.
Smooth Muscle
Smooth Muscle—Cross Section
Leiomyosarcoma

- A leiomyosarcoma is a sarcoma (cancer) of smooth muscle origin.
- This is a very well differentiated example in which the long spindled cells and nuclei are apparent.
- Often, it is only possible to tell that the tumor is of smooth muscle origin by performing specific immunohistochemical stains that identify the presence of smooth muscle actin.
Nervous Tissue

- Peripheral Nerves
- Sympathetic Ganglia
Peripheral Nerve

- Ax
- ScC
- F
- M
- NR
A peripheral nerve consists of axons (Ax) that are surrounded by schwann cells (ScC). The nuceli that are seen are the nuclei of the schwann cells. The schwann cells provide an insulating layer (myelin; M) around the axon so that the conductivity through the nerve is rapid.

- The schwann cells have a clear to light pink cytoplasm
- NR = Node of Ranvier
- MS = Myelin Sheath
- P = Perineurium
Peripheral Nerve—Cross section
Schwannoma
A schwannoma is a benign tumor that arises from a nerve. It arises from the nerve sheath or coating around the nerve.
Unknown Examples

- The following slides demonstrate some common musculoskeletal neoplasms. First you are given and unknown and the slide that follows gives the diagnosis.

- Please first think about what broad category the tumor fits into (bone producing, cartilage, fibrous, nervous, small round blue cell, giant cell, vascular tumor, etc) and then whether it appears benign or malignant. This is a good approach for determining or narrowing the diagnosis.
Chondroma
Chondroblastoma
Chondrosarcoma
Ewing’s Sarcoma
Hemangioma
Hemangioendothelioma
Nonossifying Fibroma
Fibrosarcoma
NOF/Fibrosarcoma
Benign/Malignant
Osteoblastoma
Osteosarcoma (High Grade)
Osteosarcoma (Low Grade)
Leiomyosarcoma
Enchondroma
Malignant Fibrous Histiocytoma
Lipoma
Well Differentiated Liposarcoma
Lipoma vs. Well Differentiated Liposarcoma
Rhabdomyosarcoma

- Striations consistent with Skeletal muscle origin