



Enchondroma

What is an enchondroma?

An enchondroma is a benign (non-cancer) tumor that most often is in the arms or legs. It is the most common kind of bone tumor in the hand.

What are the symptoms of an enchondroma?

The cause of an enchondroma is not known and there are no clear risk factors. Most experts think that it is a result of abnormal growth of the cartilage from the growth plate at the ends of the bones. Others think that enchondromas happen from pockets of embryonic cartilage.

What are the symptoms of an enchondroma?

Your child may not show symptoms. But some children may feel pain if:

- The tumor grows very large
- The tumor causes weakness or fracture of the bone
- The tumor causes growth in an area that is not normal

The symptoms resemble the symptoms of other conditions. Always consult your child's physician for a diagnosis.

What conditions are related enchondromas?

Ollier's disease (also called **enchondromatosis**): Many enchondromas in different places around the body.

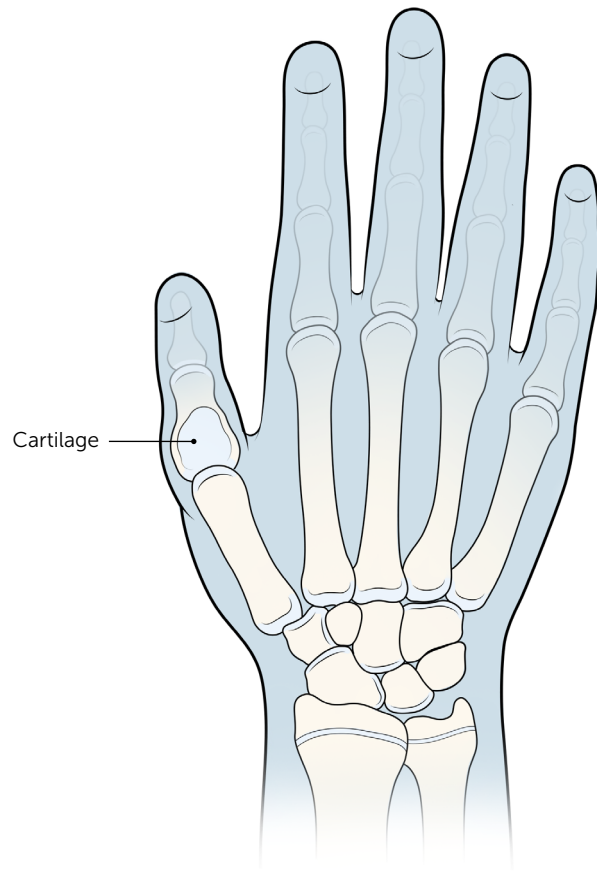
Maffucci syndrome: Many tumors related to soft tissue hemangiomas (benign tumors made up of blood vessels), along with many enchondromas in different places around the body.

How is an enchondroma diagnosed?

It is diagnosed by your child's physician after going over your child's medical history and doing a physical exam. Your child may have other tests, like an x-ray, bone scan, MRI and/or CT scan.

How is an enchondroma treated?

Treatment is different for every child. If your child shows no sign of bone weakness or tumor growth, your child's doctor may decide to just closely watch the affected area to make sure the tumor is not getting worse. Your child will have scheduled physical exams and radiographs.



Notes
