

# WHAT IS SARCOMA?

**S**oft tissue and primary bone tumors

**A**ffects all ages (mainly children and young adults)

**R**are (1% of all cancer diagnoses)

**C**omprises 15% of all children's cancers

**O**nly 3 out of 5 survive 5 years post diagnosis

**M**any different subtypes

**A**ggressive

## What is Sarcoma?

Sarcoma is the name given to a group of rare and aggressive primary bone and soft tissue tumours.

Sarcomas grow in cells that connect or support other kinds of tissue in your body, such as bone, muscle, cartilage, fat, blood vessels, nerves or deep skin tissue.

### Sock it to Sarcoma!

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**Sock it to Sarcoma!**



- Sarcomas are often found in the arms, legs and trunk. They can also be found behind the abdomen (retroperitoneal sarcomas) and in female gynaecological areas.
- Bone tumours are found more often in children and the 15-24 age group
- 10% of all cancers in the 15-24 age group are sarcomas
- Soft tissue tumours including gastrointestinal tumours (GIST) are more commonly found in the adult population

## **Early diagnosis is vital to the best outcomes for a sarcoma diagnosis**

- Referral to a specialist multi-disciplinary team with experience in treating sarcomas is crucial
- About 350 people each year are diagnosed with a sarcoma in Western Australia

## **Sarcoma receives less than 1% of the cancer research dollar**

Sarcomas are very rare and much more research needs to be done to find out more about what causes them and how to treat them. Without research, survival rates will continue to remain static.

**SARCOMA IS NO LESS IMPORTANT THAN ANY OTHER CANCER. ITS IMPACT IS REAL AND DEVASTATING.**