

**Physical examination:** locations of pain, hyperthermia, swelling, tenderness of palpation, limited range of motion

+

**Patient history:** cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, chronic diseases, immunosuppressive drugs

+

**Basic diagnostic:** WBC, CRP, x-ray, vital parameters

Suspected **monofocal** joint infection



Puncture of the joint  
Near-term surgical therapy  
Antibiotics after obtaining tissue samples

Suspected **multifocal** infection of musculoskeletal system



**Pt. not in a septic condition** and no neurological deficit:  
Local MRI of involved regions, if suspected involvement of the spine: total spine MRI, puncture of involved joints, blood culture  
Near-term surgical therapy  
Antibiotics after obtaining tissue samples



**Pt. in a septic condition**  
Pain on spine with/ without neurological deficit: total spine MRI and surgical therapy of all infected segments in a timely one-stage-procedure and surgical therapy of all other inflammatory foci (clinical indication)  
Blood culture, PCT  
Obtaining tissue samples  
Starting antibiotic therapy after surgical therapy