



# DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF ACUTE HIP PAIN IN CHILDREN

- Part 2

Quarterly Newsletter  
December 2018 Edition

## DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS OF ACUTE HIP PAIN IN CHILDREN

### PART 2 - DIAGNOSIS OF COMMON CAUSES

Following on from our September Newsletter, we outline methods of diagnosis for the four common causes of hip pain in children discussed.

#### Osteomyelitis / Septic Arthritis

**Osteomyelitis** is infection of the bones and muscles near the hip joint, whereas **septic arthritis** is infection in the hip joint

##### Diagnosis:

- Xrays – may show lateral displacement of femoral head suggestive of effusion for septic arthritis. Bone changes in late osteomyelitis (Maybe normal early)
- Ultrasound – effusion
- MRI

! Orthopaedic emergency – the bone or joint needs to be decompressed of any pus and septic load needs to be reduced as well high dose of appropriate antibiotics

#### Perthes

A form of osteonecrosis of avascular necrosis of the femoral head and occurs when the blood flow to the hip joint and surrounding bone is temporarily interrupted (for reasons unknown).

##### Diagnosis:

- Xrays (may appear normal early on)
- Bone Scan (Can detect early)
- MRI (can detect early)

#### Slipped Upper Femoral Epiphysis (SUFE)

Displacement of femoral epiphysis

##### Diagnosis:

- Xrays (maybe negative with early slip)
- Bone Scan
- MRI

#### Developmental Dysplasia of the Hip (DDH)

Abnormal development of the hip where the femur head is not stable within the socket.

##### Diagnosis:

- Xrays / Ultrasound - *refer to Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon for Splintage or Surgery*

### Investigations:

#### Bloods – FBC, ESR, CRP, Blood cultures

Can be helpful for septic / inflammatory arthritis

#### Joint Aspirate

To:

- Rule out septic arthritis,
- Identify the organism in septic arthritis

#### Xrays

For Diagnosis of:

- DDH
- Perthes
- SUFE
- Trauma
- Tumor

#### Ultrasound

To assess:

- Soft tissues
- Joint effusion

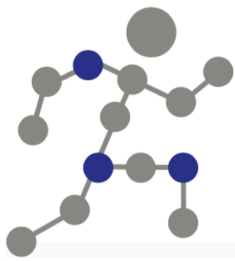
#### CT / MRI

Assessing the extent of the disease

#### Nuclear Scans

For Diagnosis of:

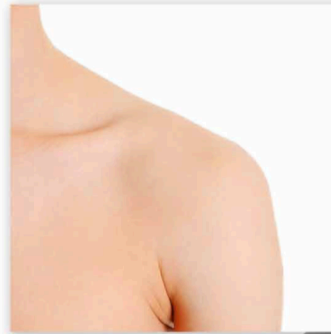
- Osteomyelitis,
- Septic arthritis
- AVN /Perthes
- Early SUFE
- Neoplasia



**Western Orthopaedics**  
HIP • KNEE • SHOULDERS

**Dr Pavitar Sunner**

M.B., B.S., F.R.A.C.S., (Orthopaedics)  
Western Orthopaedics



## About your Doctor

Dr Sunner is an Orthopaedic Surgeon practising in the outer Western Suburbs of Sydney NSW. He is both Australian and internationally trained (Canada). Operating from various locations allows Dr Sunner to offer his orthopaedic expertise to a large cross-section of patients. Dr Sunner values time with his patients, ensuring they are comfortable and well informed.

For your convenience, Dr Sunner has launched a website at [www.westernorthopaedics.com.au](http://www.westernorthopaedics.com.au) with extensive patient information. Dr Sunner and the Western Orthopaedics staff look forward to being of assistance to you.

### Background and Training

Dr Sunner completed his medical degree at the university of Sydney in 1989. Following his orthopaedic training in North Side Sydney Training program, he did a one year fellowship in arthroscopic surgery of the knee and shoulder/ sports medicine in Winnipeg, Canada. He has been in practice since returning from Canada in 2002.

### Experience

Dr Sunner provides orthopaedic services in hip, knee, shoulder reconstruction and arthroplasty.

Dr Sunner treats soft tissue injuries, as well as arthritis of these joints. He offers total hip replacements, Birmingham resurfacing hip replacements. total or partial knee replacements, total shoulder replacements, shoulder hemiarthroplasties in addition to reverse total shoulder replacement. He incorporates computer navigation in knee replacement surgery.

Dr Sunner does arthroscopic knee reconstructions, shoulder stabilisations, hip arthroscopy and rotator cuff repairs of the shoulder.

### Speciality

- Knee
- Hips
- Shoulders
- Sports medicine

### Association

- Australian Orthopaedic Association (AOA)
- Australian Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons (ASOS)
- International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery & Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (ISAKOS)
- Royal Australian College of Surgeons
- Australian Medical Association (AMA)

### Consulting Rooms

#### Nepean

Nepean Private Specialist  
Centre  
(Primary Practice)  
Suite 13B, Level 3  
1A Barber Avenue  
Penrith, NSW 2750

#### Baulkham Hills Sky City

Suite 116, Level 1  
20B Lexington Drive  
Norwest Business Park  
Baulkham Hills,  
NSW 2153

#### Merrylands

21 Memorial Avenue  
Merrylands, NSW 2160

#### Katoomba

61 Parke Street  
Katoomba, NSW 2780  
Ph: 1300 61 Parke  
(1300 61 7275)  
(02) 4782 8400  
Fax: (02) 4782 8484

#### Narellan

5 Doncaster Avenue

### Hospitals

Nepean Private Hospital  
Norwest Private Hospital

Westmead Private Hospital  
Nepean Public Hospital

**For all appointments telephone: (02) 4731 8466**

**Email:** [info@westernorthopaedics.com.au](mailto:info@westernorthopaedics.com.au)

**Website:** [www.westernorthopaedics.com.au](http://www.westernorthopaedics.com.au)