

**SKIN AND SOFT TISSUE INFECTIONS****Osteomyelitis**

Osteomyelitis is a deep infection of the bone, often in the long bones of the legs.

Symptoms include localised pain and soft tissue swelling, along with evidence of inflammation such as fevers, rigors, and night sweats.

Anyone can develop osteomyelitis, but people are more at risk if they have:

- Recently broken a bone, been injured or have a wound.
- An artificial hip or screw in a bone.
- Recently had surgery on any bone.
- Are immunocompromised.
- Have diabetes, especially with a concurrent foot ulcer.
- Had osteomyelitis before.

Patients will need specialist input to obtain samples for microbiology to target appropriate organisms.

**If a patient is suspected of having osteomyelitis seek advice from Medical Microbiology.**

Version Control- Osteomyelitis			
Version	Author(s)	Date	Changes
V2.1	Nichola Butcher, MO and Interface Pharmacist	16/03/23	Transferred onto standard template format. Information about symptoms and risks added.