

Monoarthritis	Referral Guide: Page 1 of	Rheum
Diagnosis/Definition: Acute swelling and pain in a joint		
Initial Diagnosis and Management: Complete H and P Aspiration of a swollen joint is the cornerstone of diagnosis and treatment. This can be done by PCP, Rheum, Ortho or Invasive Radiology		
Ongoing Management and Objectives: Management and treatment is dependent on the diagnosis.		
Indications for Specialty Care Referral: Need for aspiration or diagnosis.		
Test(s) to Prepare for Consult: Aspirate fluid and send for C and S, Gram Stain and Crystals. CBC, ESR, Chem panel and uric acid Xray of affected joints	Test(s) Consultant May Need To Do: Aspirate joint	
Criteria for Return to Primary Care: If it is a temporary problem after acute attack is resolved and treatment instituted.		
Revision History: Created		

Revised

Disclaimer: Adherence to these guidelines will not ensure successful treatment in every situation. Further, these guidelines should not be considered inclusive of all accepted methods of care or exclusive of other methods of care reasonably directed to obtaining the same results. The ultimate judgment regarding the appropriateness of any specific procedure, therapy, or referral must be made by the physician/provider in light of all circumstances presented by an individual patient.