Diagnosing Juvenile Arthritis

JAFA
Juvenile Arthritis Foundation Australia

CHILD under 16 years
STIFF, SWOLLEN, SORE JOINTS

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SUSPECT JUVENILE IDIOPATHIC ARTHRITIS

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WHAT SHOULD I DO?

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ASK ABOUT:
- Morning stiffness
- Joints affected
- Duration

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EXAMINE:
- Joints
- Movement
- Vision

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INVESTIGATIONS

There is NO definitive test for diagnosing JIA

- FBC, ELFT, ESR and CRP may be helpful to rule out other cause
- ANA, HLAB27 maybe detected in JIA but are not diagnostic
- X-rays usually not helpful in the early stages of the disease
- Ultrasound may be useful but is not diagnostic

Careful history is the most useful test

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