

Diffuse TGCT (PVNS) | fast facts

Diffuse tenosynovial* giant cell tumor (TGCT), a type of rare tumor, is typically non-malignant (not cancerous). You may also hear it called pigmented villonodular synovitis† (PVNS). Diffuse TGCT is most commonly found in or around the knee. It can also occur in other large joints, like the hip, ankle, elbow, or shoulder.

Diffuse TGCT typically grows throughout the joint affected.

* Pronounced TEN-oh-sin-OH-vee-ul.

† Pronounced PIG-men-ted vill-oh-NAWJ-you-ler sy-no-VY-tiss.

What should I expect?



Diffuse TGCT can be difficult to treat. Patients may benefit from the combined expertise of a **team of healthcare professionals**. The team should include a sarcoma specialist (a doctor who treats tumors that grow in the same types of tissues as TGCT). The Sarcoma Alliance may be able to help you locate a sarcoma specialist in your area.

Diffuse TGCT is the less common type of TGCT. It usually is seen in people under 40 years of age, although age may vary widely. Diffuse tumors may cause pain, swelling, and locking of the joint affected. They may even limit movement of the joint.

For more information, visit sarcomaalliance.org/resources/sarcoma-center/list/.‡



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TGCT is most commonly treated with surgery. Some diffuse tumors spread throughout a joint, making it difficult to remove the entire tumor. In some cases, surgery may be repeated or another treatment may be used.

Diffuse TGCT can grow back, or recur, after surgery. In fact, diffuse tumors recur in up to 55% of people who have surgery to remove them.

To learn more about diffuse TGCT,
talk with your doctor and visit TGCTfacts.com.