



Useful points:

- **Commonest hot joint present in primary care: Great toe MTP (almost always gout and can be diagnosed on clinical grounds).**
- **If there is doubt about Septic arthritis, don't use IA steroids injection.**
- **If you aspirate cloudy fluid from a joint, send the sample with the patient to hospital and do not inject corticosteroid.**
- **If you suspect Septic arthritis :**
 - **Patients should be admitted to hospital if sepsis is suspected.**
 - **Refer patients (with Prosthetic joints) urgently to Orthopaedics.**
 - **Refer patients (on DMARDS or biological agents) urgently to Rheumatology.**