Tenosynovial giant cell tumor (TGCT) is a rare type of typically non-malignant tumor occurring in or around a joint that can reduce function and cause damage to neighboring tissues. **Diffuse TGCT**, one of two forms of TGCT, can grow throughout the affected joint. It is typically found in or around large joints, like those of the knees or hips. Diffuse TGCT is also known as pigmented villonodular synovitis (PVNS).

**What should I expect?**

Even though diffuse TGCT is typically non-malignant, this rare disease can decrease joint function. Surgery is commonly recommended as treatment, but sometimes, the tumor can grow back.

Doctors who treat sarcoma can often be involved in your care because they have experience treating tumors that grow in the same types of tissues as TGCT. The Sarcoma Alliance and SARC (Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration) are 2 organizations that provide a list of sarcoma centers on their websites.

Visit sarcomaalliance.org or sarctrials.org for more information.

Diffuse TGCT is usually first seen in patients **under 40 years of age**, although age may vary widely. Tumors may cause pain, tenderness, “locking” or “popping” of the joint, repeated swelling, limited range of motion, and buildup of fluid in the joint.

TGCT is most commonly treated with surgery. For some patients with diffuse tumor that is spread throughout the joint, it **can be difficult to remove** all of the tumor. Other treatment approaches may also be used.

**20%-50%**

Diffuse TGCT can come back after surgery. In fact, tumors grow back in about **20% to 50%** of people with diffuse TGCT.

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

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