

## Clinical Presentation

Of 996 evaluations included in our ED study population, 109 (10.9%) had MSK infections. In a multivariate model, an adjusted odds ratio was significant for fever (3.9, 95% CI 2.4-6.4), refusal to bear weight or pseudoparalysis (4.4, 95% CI 2.7-7.1), and CRP >2.0 mg/dL (5.4, 95% CI 3.2- 9.1). The probability of infection was 75.1% with five predictors present, 1.9% for 0 predictors, and 5.1% if 1 predictor was present. An ROC curve showed an area under the curve of 0.82 indicating moderate accuracy.

*These guidelines do not establish a standard of care to be followed in every case. It is recognized that each case is different and those individuals involved in providing health care are expected to use their judgment in determining what is in the best interests of the patient based on the circumstances existing at the time. It is impossible to anticipate all possible situations that may exist and to prepare guidelines for each. Accordingly these guidelines should guide care with the understanding that departures from them may be required at times.*