Monoarticular Joint Pain

To exclude 'red flag' conditions two key questions should be asked when patients present with acute monarticular joint pain; these are:

- History of significant trauma
- Evidence of severe local inflammation (heat, redness, swelling, tenderness)

**YES**

Periarticular or Articular

- bursitis
- tendinitis
- ligament/capsular damage
- enthesopathy
- tenderness over joint line
- pain at extremes of movement

Treat

**YES**

Consider gout (♂ >40 yr) (♀ >50 yr) if previous attacks

**NO**

NSAID

Systematically unwell +/- pyrexia

**YES**

Urgent Orthopaedics

*NSU = non specific urethritis

**FBC, ESR, U+E, LFT, Latex, Uric acid (♂ >40yr & ♀ >50yr)*