## AN APPROACH TO A CHILD WITH ARTHRITIS.

## MANIK KUMAR TALUKDER

Professor & Chairman, Pediatrics, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital, Dhaka, Bangladesh. E-mail: talukder. manik@bsmmu.com

Musculoskeletal and joint diseases appear to be increasing and continue to be a growing childhood health problem. Confusion over terminology and a lack of awareness of these conditions have probably contributed to their under-recognition. Musculoskeletal pain in children are common, affecting about 10-20 % of school children.2 Various local and systemic, acute and chronic, benign and malignant conditions are associated with musculoskeletal pain (Table-I). A correct diagnosis is essential for appropriate management. It is important to remember that all the limb and joint pains are not arthritis and all arthritis are not painful. A child presenting with arthritis is always a diagnostic challenge even for the most experienced clinicians.

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