Bone Cells and their Involvement in Bone Cancer Pain Sensation Mrs. Boggs



•Bone is a rigid organ that provides the body with structure, support, and functions in movement. •Blood cells are made in bone. Copyright @ The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Permission required for reproduction or display.



http://www.umm.edu/bone/bone.htm

## Bone Cancer (Osteosarcoma)



Osteosarcoma arises in the mineralized tissue in the bone
Bone is a secondary site of metastasis for prostate cancer, breast cancer, and lung cancer
Biggest problem with bone cancer is the pain and standard of living



http://www.lmp.ualberta.ca/resources/pathoi mages/Images-G/000p043j.jpg

## **Studying Bone Cancer Pain**

 How is pain associated with bone cancer sensed by the brain?

- Osteocytes come in close association with nerves that enter the bone
- Do Osteocytes and nerves "talk"? When someone has bone cancer, do Osteocytes send constant pain signals to nerves?





Bonewald (2005) J Musculoskelet Neuronal Ineract 5(4):321-324

## Studying Osteocyte and Nerves Communication



