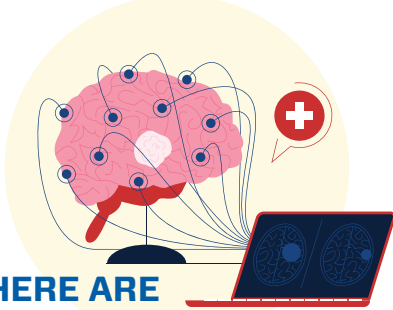


# BRAIN TUMORS *Info Sheet*



## FAST FACTS



THERE ARE **120** MORE THAN DIFFERENT TYPES OF BRAIN TUMORS

Brain tumors occur mostly in children younger than **15** & in adults older than **65**

The chance of developing a malignant brain tumor is LESS THAN

**1%**

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

When cells in the brain grow and multiply out of control, they can form a tumor which may be malignant (cancerous) or benign (not cancerous). Roswell Park treats both malignant and benign tumors in the brain.

**Malignant brain tumors** contain cancer cells and tend to grow rapidly and invade healthy brain tissue. Many of these are treatable and new therapies can help patients live longer and preserve quality of life.

**Benign brain tumors** do not contain cancer cells. They rarely invade nearby tissue or spread to other parts of the body. Although a benign tumor is not cancerous, it still needs treatment because it can press on the brain as it grows in the skull.

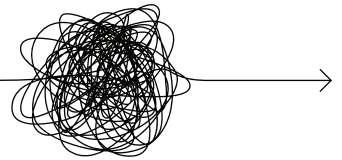
## ARE YOU AT RISK?

Brain tumors are relatively rare. They can occur at any age but are most common in children and older adults. You may have an increased risk for developing a brain tumor if you have one of these factors:

- ✓ **Prior radiation treatment** for other medical conditions such as leukemia.
- ✓ **Certain genetic conditions in your family.**  
About 5% of brain tumors are linked to:
  - ✓ Neurofibromatosis
  - ✓ Tuberous sclerosis
  - ✓ Von Hippel-Lindau disease
  - ✓ Li-Fraumeni syndrome

## SYMPTOMS TO TELL YOUR DOCTOR

- ✓ Persistent daily headaches
- ✓ Changes in speech, vision or hearing
- ✓ Problems balancing or walking
- ✓ Changes in mood, personality or ability to concentrate
- ✓ Confusion or difficulty with memory
- ✓ Muscle jerking or twitching (seizures or convulsions)
- ✓ Numbness, weakness or tingling in arms or legs






## WHY ROSWELL PARK FOR BRAIN TUMORS?

Although brain tumors are rare, Roswell Park treats them every day. Our expertise with the latest approaches and technology allows us to provide the highest level of cancer care for brain tumors, including:

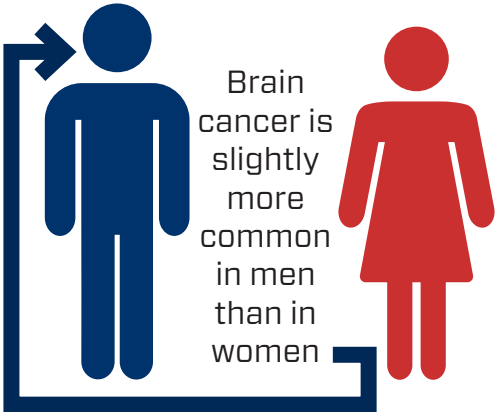
- ✔ **Multidisciplinary care** by a team of specialists from different fields including neurosurgery, neuro-oncology, neuroradiology, neuropathology and radiation oncology.
- ✔ **Neurosurgeons who focus on brain tumors.** Most neurosurgeons treat a wide range of neurological disorders and see very few brain tumors. Our board-certified neurosurgeons treat patients with brain tumors every day.
- ✔ **Endonasal skull base surgery.** With this highly specialized procedure, some tumors are able to be removed through the nose, without opening the skull.
- ✔ **Gamma knife radiosurgery** is a highly precise type of radiation therapy for treatment of brain tumors that is unavailable elsewhere in the region.
- ✔ **A treatment vaccine.** Developed at Roswell Park, SurVaxM is an immunotherapy vaccine currently being studied in patients with glioblastoma, an aggressive type of brain cancer.
- ✔ **Comprehensive support services** including nutrition, physical and occupational therapy, counseling, spiritual care, support groups, and acupuncture, massage, mind-body therapy, yoga and more.



If you have a brain tumor, you need a second opinion. We can arrange for our experts to review your scans and schedule a consultation.

### WHY IT MATTERS

Patients have come to Roswell Park after being told their tumor was inoperable, but our physicians — bringing unique sets of knowledge, experience and specialty training — found ways to make surgery or other personalized treatment possible.



Brain cancer is slightly more common in men than in women

## MEET OUR DOCTORS

### Neurosurgery

1. Andrew Fabiano, MD, FAANS
2. Robert Fenstermaker, MD
3. Lindsay Lipinski, MD, FAANS
4. Robert Plunkett, MD



### Neuro-Oncology

5. Ajay Abad, MD
6. Chinazom Ibegbu, MD
7. Lazlo Mechtler, MD, FAAN, FASN

### Radiation Oncology

8. Dheerendra Prasad, MD, MCh, FACRO

