Quick Facts

- 688,096 Americans are living with a brain tumor.
  - 550,042 tumors are benign
  - 138,054 tumors are malignant
- An estimated 77,670 will receive primary brain tumor diagnosed in 2016.
  - 52,880 will be benign
  - 24,790 will be malignant
- The average survival rate for all malignant brain tumor patients is only 34.4%.
  - Male: 31.7%
  - Female: 34.4%
  - For the most common form of primary malignant brain tumors, glioblastoma multiforme, the five-year relative survival rate is only 5.1%.
- An estimated 16,616 people will die from malignant brain tumors (brain cancer) in 2016.

Brain Tumors in Adults

- The most prevalent brain tumor types in adults:
  - Meningiomas, which make-up 36.4% of all primary brain tumors.
  - Gliomas (such as glioblastoma, ependymomas, astrocytomas, and oligodendrogliomas), which make-up 80% of malignant brain tumors.

Brain Tumors in Children

- More than 28,000 children (0-14 years of age) are estimated to be living with a brain tumor in the US.
- An estimated 4,630 new cases of childhood and adolescent (15-19 years of age) primary malignant and nonmalignant brain and CNS tumors are expected to be diagnosed in 2016.
- The average survival rate for all primary pediatric (0-19 years of age) malignant brain tumors is 73.6%.
- Brain and CNS tumors are the most prevalent form of pediatric cancer in kids under 19.
- Brain tumors are the leading cause of cancer-related deaths in children under 14, and the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in children and young adults under 20.
- It is estimated that, in 2009, a total of 47,631.5 years of potential life were lost due to brain tumors in children 0-19 years old.
- The most prevalent brain tumor types in children:
  - Pilocytic Astrocytoma
  - Malignant Glioma
  - Medulloblastoma
  - Neuronalandmixedneuronal-glialtumors
  - Ependymoma
Additional Notes

- More than any other cancer, brain tumors can have lasting and life-altering physical, cognitive, and psychological impacts on a patient’s life.
  - This means malignant brain tumors can often be described as equal parts neurological disease and deadly cancer.
- Even benign brain tumors can be deadly if they interfere with portions of the brain responsible for vital bodily functions.
- There are more than 120 different types of brain tumors, many with their own multitude of subtypes.
- Despite the amount of brain tumors, and their devastating prognosis, there have only been four (4) FDA approved drugs and one device to treat brain tumors in the past 30 years.
  - For many tumor types, surgery and radiation remain the standard of care.
  - There has never been a drug developed and approved specifically for malignant pediatric brain tumors.
  - The four approved drugs for brain tumors have provided only incremental improvements to patient survival, and mortality rates remain little changed over the past 30 years.
- Between 1998 and 2014, there were 78 investigational brain tumor drugs that entered the clinical trial evaluation process. 75 failed. That is a 25:1 failure ratio in developing new brain tumor treatments over the past two decades.¹
- Brain tumors have the highest per-patient initial cost of care for any cancer group, with an annualized mean net costs of care in 2010 US dollars at well over $100,000.²
- While, there is no official accounting of, and some significant disagreement regarding, the amount of cancer cases each year that metastasize to the brain. Estimates range on the low end from approximately ~56,000 cases to ~500,000 on the high-end of cancer patients developing brain metastases annually.
  - Studies have cited that the percentage of cancer patients who will develop brain metastases is anywhere from 6-28%.
  - What we do know is that approximately 80% of cancers have been associated with the ability to metastasize to the brain.
    » These include, melanoma (where nearly 50% of cases will metastasize to the brain), lung, breast, renal, and colorectal.

Sources:


About National Brain Tumor Society

National Brain Tumor Society is the largest nonprofit organization dedicated to the brain tumor community in the United States. We are fiercely committed to finding better treatments, and ultimately a cure, for people living with a brain tumor today and those who will be diagnosed tomorrow. This means aggressively driving strategic research and advocating for public policies, which meet the critical needs of this community. It’s time to build on progress and transform tomorrow, today.