Brain Tumors

The UCSF Patient and Family Cancer Support Center is the hub of support, information and resources for people with cancer at the Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. Learn more about UCSF’s supportive care programs at https://cancer.ucsf.edu/support/crc/patient-support-center

The Cancer Support Center at Mission Bay is located at 1825 4th St., 1st Floor, Room M-1210. The Cancer Support Center at Mt. Zion is located at 1600 Divisadero St., 1st Floor, Room B-101.

The complete list of Patient Education Resource Pages is available to view at http://cancer.ucsf.edu/support/crc/patient-education-resources

Overview

Early diagnosis can be an important factor in the outcome of tumors in the brain. Brain tumors are the second leading cause of cancer death in children under age 15 and the second fastest growing cause of cancer death among those over age 65. Over the next year, more than 100,000 people in the United States will be diagnosed with a brain tumor - Website: https://www.ucsfhealth.org/conditions/brain-tumor

Types of Brain Tumors

Primary Brain Tumors:

Tumors that begin in brain tissue are known as primary brain tumors and are classified by the type of tissue in which they originate. The most common brain tumors are gliomas, which begin in the glial or supportive tissue. There are several types of gliomas: Astrocytomas, Brain stem gliomas, Ependymomas, Oligodendrogliomas, Medulloblastomas, Meningiomas, Schwannomas, Craniopharyngiomas, Germ cell tumors, Pineal regions tumors Website: https://www.ucsfhealth.org/conditions/brain-tumor

Secondary Brain Tumors

Metastasis is the spread of cancer. Cancer that begins in other parts of the body may spread to the brain and cause secondary tumors. These tumors are not the same as primary brain tumors. Cancer that spreads to the brain is the same disease and has the same name as the original or primary cancer. For example, if lung cancer spreads to the brain, the disease is called metastatic lung cancer because the cells in the secondary tumor resemble abnormal lung cells, not abnormal brain cells. Treatment for secondary brain tumors depends on where the cancer started and the extent of the spread as well as other factors, including the patient's age, general health and response to previous treatment Website: https://www.ucsfhealth.org/conditions/brain-tumor
UCSF Resources

UCSF Neuro-Oncology Gordon Murray Caregiver Program
The dedicated caregiver staff is here to support family members and friends of our patients throughout their caregiving journey. The website includes many resources, educational materials and lectures, and upcoming events.
Website: https://braintumorcenter.ucsf.edu/supportive-care/ucsf-neuro-oncology-gordon-murray-caregiver-program | Phone Number: (415) 514-5674.

Sheri Sobrato Brisson Brain Cancer Survivorship Program
Program that invites survivors to not only better cope with some of the lingering effects of cancer and treatment, but also to consider this a time to live their healthiest life yet and even thrive. We do this through offering individual consultation and group instruction that helps survivors identify and achieve their wellness goals and improve quality of life.
Website: https://braintumorcenter.ucsf.edu/supportive-care/sheri-sobrato-brisson-brain-cancer-survivorship-program | Phone Number: (415) 514-5674.

UCSF Brain Tumor Center
The mission of the Brain Tumor Center is to provide the best possible care for our patients, and be at the leading edge of new treatments for brain tumors. Website:
https://braintumorcenter.ucsf.edu/why-choose-ucsf-brain-tumor-care | Phone Number: (415) 353-2966

Publications

American Brain Tumor Association Publications
ABTA offers numerous educational publications on specific topics related to brain tumors, including "About Brain Tumors: A Primer for Patients and Caregivers."
Website: https://www.abta.org/product/about-brain-tumors-a-primer-for-patients-caregivers/

Organizations

American Cancer Society (ACS)
At the American Cancer Society, we’re on a mission to free the world from cancer. Until we do, we’ll be funding and conducting research, sharing expert information, supporting patients, and spreading the word about prevention. All so you can live longer — and better.
Website: https://www.cancer.org/cancer/brain-spinal-cord-tumors-adults | Phone Number: 800.227.2345

American Brain Tumor Association
ABTA supports the needs and improvement of lives of patients and caregivers. Website includes numerous educational publications, information about diagnosis, treatment, side effects and webinars. Website: www.abta.org | Phone Number: 1-800-886-2282
Cancer Support Community – Brain and Spinal Cord Tumors
As the largest professionally led nonprofit network of cancer support worldwide, the Cancer Support Community is dedicated to ensuring that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action, and sustained by community.
Website: https://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/brain-and-spinal-cord-tumors | Phone Number: 888-793-9355

The Healing Exchange Brain Trust
T.H.E. Brain Trust supports people affected by brain cancer through online support groups.
Website: https://braintrust.org | Phone Number: 1-877-252-8480

Medline Plus: Trusted Health Information for You – Brain Tumors
MedlinePlus is a service of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), the world's largest medical library, which is part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).
Website: https://medlineplus.gov/braintumors.html

National Brain Tumor Society
NBTS advocates for better treatments and a cure for people living with brain tumors.
www.braintumor.org | Phone Number: (617) 924-9997

National Cancer Institute
The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is the federal government's principal agency for cancer research and training. NCI is deeply committed to the core values of equity, diversity, and inclusion that allow all staff to reach their potential and fully contribute to the Institute’s cancer mission. Website: https://www.cancer.gov/types/brain

National LGBT Cancer Network
The National LGBT Cancer Network works to improve the lives of LGBT cancer survivors and those at risk by: EDUCATING the LGBT community about our increased cancer risks and the importance of screening and early detection; TRAINING health care providers to offer more culturally-competent, safe and welcoming care; and ADVOCATING for LGBT survivors in mainstream cancer organizations, the media and research.
Website: https://cancer-network.org/about/ | Phone Number: 212-675-2633

Triage Cancer
Triage Cancer is a national, nonprofit organization that provides free education on the legal and practical issues that may impact individuals diagnosed with cancer and their caregivers, through events, materials, and resources. Website: https://triagecancer.org/
Books

A Tiny Boat at Sea: How to Help Children Who Have a Parent Diagnosed with Cancer by Izetta Smith
Website: https://books.google.com/books/about/A_Tiny_Boat_at_Sea.html?id=JS1_GwAACA

Musella – Foundation for Brain Tumor Research & Information Inc.
This is a list of some of the books the Musella team have found useful. They are rated on a scale of 0 to 10 (with 10 the best) by patients and caregivers.
Website: https://virtualtrials.org/books.cfm | Phone Number: (888) 295-4740

This information is intended to offer credible and reliable education resources for patients who want to learn more about their diagnosis. It is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all resources available.