WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT MENINGIOMA

WHAT IS A MENINGIOMA?

- A tumor that forms from the membranes covering the brain and spinal cord
- Most common type of tumor that originates in the central nervous system

Meningioma tumors that have never been detected clinically are discovered in **2.8%** of all people who are autopsied.

WHO IS AFFECTED?

33.8% of all adult primary brain tumors are meningiomas.

Only **2.5%** of all cases occur in children.

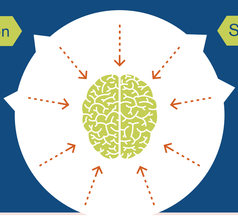
Most cases are diagnosed between ages **40-70.**

Meningioma cases by gender:
74% Female
26% Male

WHAT CAUSES A MENINGIOMA?

2 known risk factors:

- Exposure to radiation
- Neurofibromatosis type 2



Previous injury may also be a risk factor, as meningiomas have been found on:

- Skull fracture sites
- Scarred membrane tissue

3 CLASSIFICATIONS OF MENINGIOMA

BENIGN:
90% of cases

- Slow growth.
- Rarely invade the brain tissue.
- Less likely to recur.

ATYPICAL:
7-8% of cases

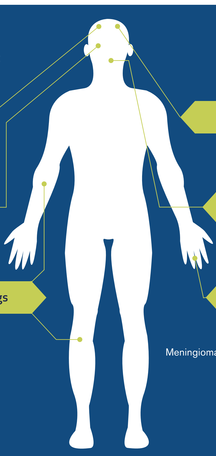
- Increased tissue and cell abnormalities.
- Brain invasion often occurs.
- Higher risk of reoccurrence.

MALIGNANT:
2-3% of cases

- Increased cellular abnormalities.
- Fastest growth rate.
- Most likely to:
  - Invade the brain.
  - Spread (metastasize) to other organs.
  - High recurrence rate.

DETECTION

Common symptoms include:



- Seizures
- Blurred vision
- Weakness in arms or legs
- Headaches
- Speech difficulties
- Numbness

Meningiomas are rarely diagnosed before symptoms occur.

DIAGNOSIS

Doctors will order **CT scan or MRI scan** to determine the size and location of the meningioma.

TREATMENTS

Observation

- Regular brain scans check for tumor growth.

Surgery

- Minimally invasive approach.
- Advanced microsurgical and virtual reality techniques.
- In certain cases, tumors are embolized before surgery. Particles or glue are injected into the tumor a few days before surgery to reduce bleeding.

Stereotactic Radiosurgery

Focused radiation only to the tumor.

- Little to no spread to surrounding brain.
- Shrinks and prevents tumor growth.
- Can kill cancer cells in malignant tumors.

Houston Methodist Kenneth R. Peak Center for Brain & Pituitary Tumor Treatment and Research offers patients personalized treatment of brain, spine, and pituitary tumors.
For more information, visit **houstonmethodist.org/peakcenter** or call **713-441-8500**.

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