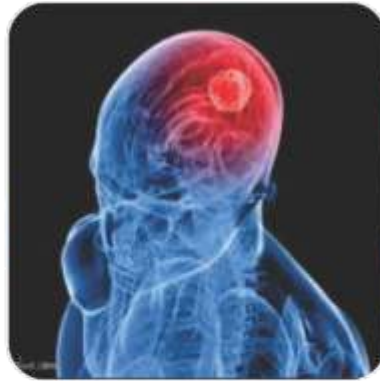




*Brain
Tumor*





The central nervous system of human body comprises of brain, spinal cord and their coverings. Tumor can develop in any of the above mentioned areas. The outcome of treatment is highly variable depending on the diagnosis whether benign or malignant. In benign tumors, patients can lead their lives in a normal way, whereas in malignant tumors, survival depends on grade of tumor. Higher the grade, lower the survival.

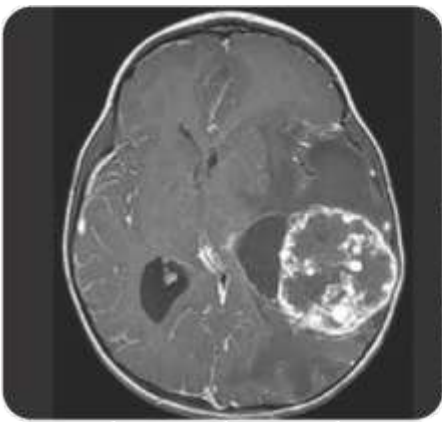
Any tumour in the brain can be either primary (arising from the brain or its coverings) or secondary (metastatic lesion in the brain from primary cancer in some other part of body like lung, breast etc.). Secondary metastasis to brain is more common than primary brain tumour. Of all primary tumours, gliomas (GBM- glioblastoma multiforme) are most common in adults. They are most malignant or rapidly spreading tumours. The second most common tumors are meningiomas, which arise from the coverings of the brain. Meningiomas are relatively benign brain tumors with better prognosis and disease free survival. WHO (World health organisation) has classified brain tumors in 4 grades.

Grade I and II tumors have better prognosis while grade III and IV have poor prognosis.

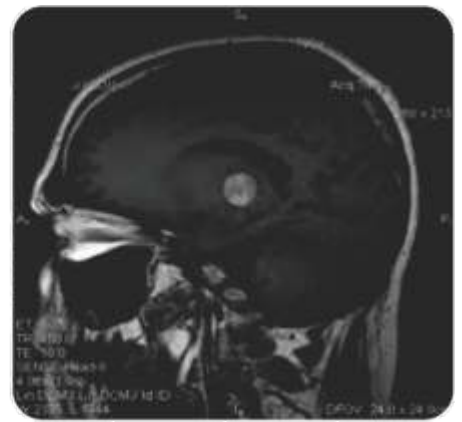
What are the complaints of a patient of brain tumor?

- Headache
- Vomiting
- Lethargy
- Irritability
- Seizures/ fits
- Visual disturbances
- Unsteadiness

What are the investigations required in patients with brain tumours?



MRI with contrast.



CT- Scan of brain.



Histological confirmation by open biopsy or stereotactic biopsy.

*Brain
Tumor*

What are the treatment modalities available?

For benign tumors, asymptomatic patients can be observed with regular follow up. Whereas, symptomatic patients are treated with surgery if operable or stereotactic radiosurgery (SRS) or stereotactic radiotherapy (SRT) if inoperable. For malignant tumors, a combination of surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy is needed.



*Brain
Tumor*