

date visited 5/1/13

Article Link: <http://www.webmd.com/cancer/brain-cancer/glioblastoma-multiforme>

Brain Cancer Health Center

Glioblastoma Multiforme

Important

It is possible that the main title of the report Glioblastoma Multiforme is not the name you expected. Please check the [synonyms](#) listing to find the alternate name(s) and [disorder subdivision\(s\)](#) covered by this report.

Synonyms

[astrocytoma](#), grade IV

GBM

Disorder Subdivisions

None

General Discussion

Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM) is the most common malignant primary [brain tumor](#). These tumors are often aggressive and infiltrate surrounding [brain](#) tissue. GBMs arise from glial cells, which are cells that form the tissue that surrounds and protects other nerve cells found within the brain and spinal cord. GBMs are mainly composed of star-shaped glial cells known as astrocytes. The general term glioma includes any type of brain tumor such as astrocytoma and oligodendroglioma that arise from glial cells.

Astrocytomas are classified according to a grading system developed by the World Health Organization (WHO). Astrocytomas come in four grades based upon how fast the cells are reproducing and that likelihood that they will infiltrate nearby tissue. Grades I or II astrocytomas are nonmalignant and may be referred to as low-grade. Grades III and IV astrocytomas are malignant and may be referred to as high-grade astrocytomas. Grade III astrocytomas are known as anaplastic astrocytomas. Grade IV astrocytomas are known as glioblastoma multiforme.

Resources

American Brain Tumor Association

8550 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 550

Chicago, IL 60631

USA

Tel: (847)827-9910

Fax: (847)827-9918

Tel: (800)886-2282

Email: info@abta.org

Internet: <http://www.abta.org>

American Childhood [Cancer](#) Organization

10920 Connecticut Ave

Suite A

date visited 5/1/13

Kensington, MD 20895
Tel: (301)962-3520
Fax: (301)962-3521
Tel: (800)366-2223
Email: staff@acco.org
Internet: <http://www.candlelighters.org>

American Cancer Society, Inc.

1599 Clifton Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30329
USA
Tel: (404)320-3333
Tel: (800)227-2345
TDD: (866)228-4327
Internet: <http://www.cancer.org>

Harvard Brain Tissue Resource Center

McLean Hospital
115 Mill Street
Belmont, MA 02178
Tel: (617)855-2400
Fax: (617)855-3199
Tel: (800)272-4622
Email: hbtrc@mclean.harvard.edu
Internet: <http://www.brainbank.mclean.org>

National Cancer Institute

6116 Executive Blvd
MSC 8322
Room 3036A
Bethesda, MD 20892-8322
USA
Tel: (301)435-3848
Tel: (800)422-6237
TDD: (800)332-8615
Email: cancergovstaff@mail.nih.gov
Internet: <http://www.cancer.gov>

Children's Brain Tumor Foundation

274 Madison Avenue, Suite 1004
New York, NY 10016
United States
Tel: (212)448-1595
Fax: (212)448-1022
Tel: (866)228-4673
Email: info@cbtf.org
Internet: <http://www.cbtf.org>

date visited 5/1/13

Brain Tumor Foundation for Children, Inc.

6065 Roswell Road Suite 505
Atlanta, GA 30328-4015
USA
Tel: (404)252-4107
Fax: (404)252-4108
Email: info@braintumorkids.org
Internet: <http://www.braintumorkids.org>

MUMS National Parent-to-Parent Network

150 Custer Court
Green Bay, WI 54301-1243
USA
Tel: (920)336-5333
Fax: (920)339-0995
Tel: (877)336-5333
Email: mums@netnet.net
Internet: <http://www.netnet.net/mums/>

Genetic and Rare Diseases (GARD) Information Center

PO Box 8126
Gaithersburg, MD 20898-8126
Tel: (301)251-4925
Fax: (301)251-4911
Tel: (888)205-2311
TDD: (888)205-3223
Internet: <http://rarediseases.info.nih.gov/GARD/AboutGARD.aspx>

Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation

302 Ridgefield Court
Asheville, NC 28806
Tel: (828)665-6891
Fax: (828)665-6894
Tel: (800)253-6530
Email: pbtfus@pbtfus.org
Internet: <http://www.pbtfus.org>

Friends of Cancer Research

1800 M Street NW
Suite 1050 South
Washington, DC 22202
Tel: (202)944-6700
Email: info@focr.org
Internet: <http://www.focr.org>

Cancer Support Community

1050 17th St NW
Washington, DC 20036

date visited 5/1/13

Tel: (202)659-9709
Fax: (202)974-7999
Tel: (888)793-9355
Internet: <http://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/>

Lance Armstrong Foundation

2201 E. Sixth Street
Austin, TX 78702
Tel: (512)236-8820
Fax: (512)236-8482
Tel: (877)236-8820
Email: media@livestrong.org
Internet: <http://www.livestrong.org>

National Brain Tumor Society

124 Watertown Street, Suite 2D
Watertown, MA 02472
Tel: (617)924-9997
Fax: (617)924-9998
Tel: (800) 770-8287
Email: info@braintumor.org
Internet: <http://www.braintumor.org>

Top Picks

- [6 Serious Symptoms You Should Never Ignore](#)
- [Good Nutrition During Cancer Treatment](#)
- [Top Cancer-Fighting Foods](#)
- [Brain Tumor Surgery Through Eyelid](#)
- [Types of Brain Cancer Treatment](#)
- [25 Brain Cancer Symptoms](#)

For a Complete Report:

This is an abstract of a report from the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD). A copy of the complete report can be downloaded free from the NORD website for registered users. The complete report contains additional information including symptoms, causes, affected population, related disorders, standard and investigational therapies (if available), and references from medical literature. For a full-text version of this topic, go to www.rarediseases.org and click on Rare Disease Database under "Rare Disease Information".

The information provided in this report is not intended for diagnostic purposes. It is provided for informational purposes only. NORD recommends that affected individuals seek the advice or counsel of their own personal physicians.

It is possible that the title of this topic is not the name you selected. Please check the Synonyms listing to find the alternate name(s) and Disorder Subdivision(s) covered by this report

This disease entry is based upon medical information available through the date at the end of the topic. Since NORD's resources are limited, it is not possible to keep every entry in the Rare Disease Database completely current and accurate. Please check with the agencies listed in the Resources section for the most current information about this disorder.

For additional information and assistance about rare disorders, please contact the National Organization for Rare Disorders at P.O. Box 1968, Danbury, CT 06813-1968; phone (203) 744-0100; web site

date visited 5/1/13

www.rarediseases.org or email orphan@rarediseases.org

Last Updated: 5/12/2009

Copyright 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2007 National Organization for Rare Disorders, Inc.

WebMD Medical Reference from the National Organization of Rare Disorders



Last Updated: May 16, 2012

This information is not intended to replace the advice of a doctor. Healthwise disclaims any liability for the decisions you make based on this information.

My Notes:

ADVERTISEMENT

The new **WebMD symptom checker** is now better than ever!

Now save your symptoms, get detailed health information,
and even print a report for your doctor.

Start Now

