

Facts About Childhood Brain Tumors

- More children die of brain tumors than any other form of cancer.¹
- In the United States, more than 28,000 children and teenagers in the United States are living with the diagnosis of a primary brain tumor.²
- About 4,600 children and teenagers are diagnosed with a primary brain or central nervous system tumor each year.³ That's 13 new cases per day.
- There are more than 100 different types of brain tumors, making diagnosis and treatment challenging.⁴
- 72 percent of young people diagnosed with a brain tumor are younger than age 15.⁵
- Survival rates for many childhood brain tumors have improved over the past 30 years. However, survivors often suffer from lifelong side effects caused by their illness as well as by treatments such as surgery, radiation and chemotherapy.
- Among cancer deaths, brain and central nervous system tumors cause the greatest proportion of years of potential life lost (31 percent).⁶
- Pediatric brain tumors aren't like those in adults. Children's brain tumors require specific research and different treatments.
- Brain tumors are located in children's control center of thought, emotion and movement, often resulting in long-term side effects. Survivors can have physical, learning and emotional challenges that will limit their quality of life into adulthood.
- Nonmalignant ("benign") brain tumors can be deadly if their location in the brain prevents surgical removal or other curative treatments.
- Research that focuses specifically on pediatric brain tumors is crucial to saving children's lives and improving survivors' quality of life.

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¹ Ostrom, QT, de Blank, PM, et al. Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Infant and Childhood Primary Brain and Central Nervous System Tumors Diagnosed in the United States in 2007-2011. *Neuro Oncol.* 2015

² Porter KR, McCarthy BJ, Freels S, Kim Y, Davis FG. "Prevalence Estimates for Primary Brain Tumors in the US by Age, Gender, Behavior, and Histology," *Neuro-Oncology*, 12(6): 520-527, 2010.

³ Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States, 2013

⁴ WHO Classification of Tumours of the Central Nervous System - World Health Organization . 4th Edition, 2007

⁵ Central Brain Tumor Registry of the United States, 2013

⁶ de Blank, PM, et al. *Cancer Medicine*, 2015.