

# BRAIN TUMOURS

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UHW

## DEFINITION OF CANCER

- **Cancer: a term for diseases in which abnormal cells divide without control; cancer cells can invade nearby tissues and can spread through the bloodstream and lymphatic system to other parts of the body (metastasize).**

## INCIDENCE

- 7:100,000
- SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN MALES
- AGE GROUP
- NO KNOWN CAUSE
- CARDIFF

- METASTATIC 'SECONDARY' TUMOURS
- PRIMARY TUMOURS
- TUMOUR GRADING
- 'BENIGN' / MALIGNANT
- PROGNOSIS (FUTURE OUTCOME)

## METASTATIC LESIONS

- 40% OF ALL INTRACRANIAL TUMOURS
- LUNG
- BREAST
- MELANOMA
- RENAL
- COLON

## PRIMARY TUMOURS

- GLIOMAS
- ASTROCYTOMAS
- OLIGODENDROGLIOMAS
- EPENDYMOMAS
- GLIOBLASTOMA MULTIFORME (GBM)

## WHO TUMOUR GRADING

### GRADE 1

Small number of slow growing cells well defined, respectable and potentially curable tumours

### GRADE 11

The cells are more densely packed and irregular(pleomorphic)

- GRADE 111

Now the cells are more dense and pleomorphic + significant mitotic activity(dividing),therefore number is indicative of rate of growth

- GRADE 1V

As for grade 111 + thickened blood vessels(contrast enhancement on scan) as well as necrosis(tissue death) growing so fast its outgrowing blood supply  
GBM

## BENIGN VS MALIGNANT

- NOT DANGEROUS TO HEALTH:NOT RECURRENT OR PROGRESSIVE (ESPECIALLY OF TUMOUR)
- NOT CANCEROUS:DO NOT INVADE ADJACENT TISSUES
- GENERALLY NOT LIFE THREATENING

## SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

- Inappropriate behaviour
- Emotions
- Short term memory
- Headache
- Dysphasia
- Seizure activity
- Vision
- Nausea & vomiting
- Incontinence

## PATIENT PATHWAY

- BIOPSY
- CRANIOTOMY
- RADIOTHERAPY
- CHEMOTHERAPY
- OMMAYA RESERVIOR
- VP SHUNTS / 3<sup>RD</sup> VENTRICULOSTOMY

## HIGH GRADE GLIOMA PATIENTS

- TREATMENTS
- PROGNOSIS

## LOW GRADE GLIOMA PATIENTS

- MANAGEMENT / TREATMENTS
- PROGNOSIS
- ONGOING SUPPORT

## ISSUES

- SEIZURES
- MEDICATION
- SOCIAL LIFE
- WORK
- ROLE STRESS
- PERSONALITY CHANGES
- SCANS, OPS, TREATMENTS, OPA'S
- PSYCHOLOGICAL
- THE TUMOUR

## HOW CAN THIS BE FACILITATED?

- A DEEP TRUSTING RELATIONSHIP
  - EXPLORE LIFESTYLE ISSUES
  - EXPRESS EMOTIONS
  - RECOGNISE STRENGTHS
  - BUILD ON POSITIVES
  - MAINTAIN REALISTIC HOPE
  - FACILITATE TALK OF DEATH

- 'LIFE IS SHORT'
- 'LIFE IS NOT A DRESS REHERSAL'