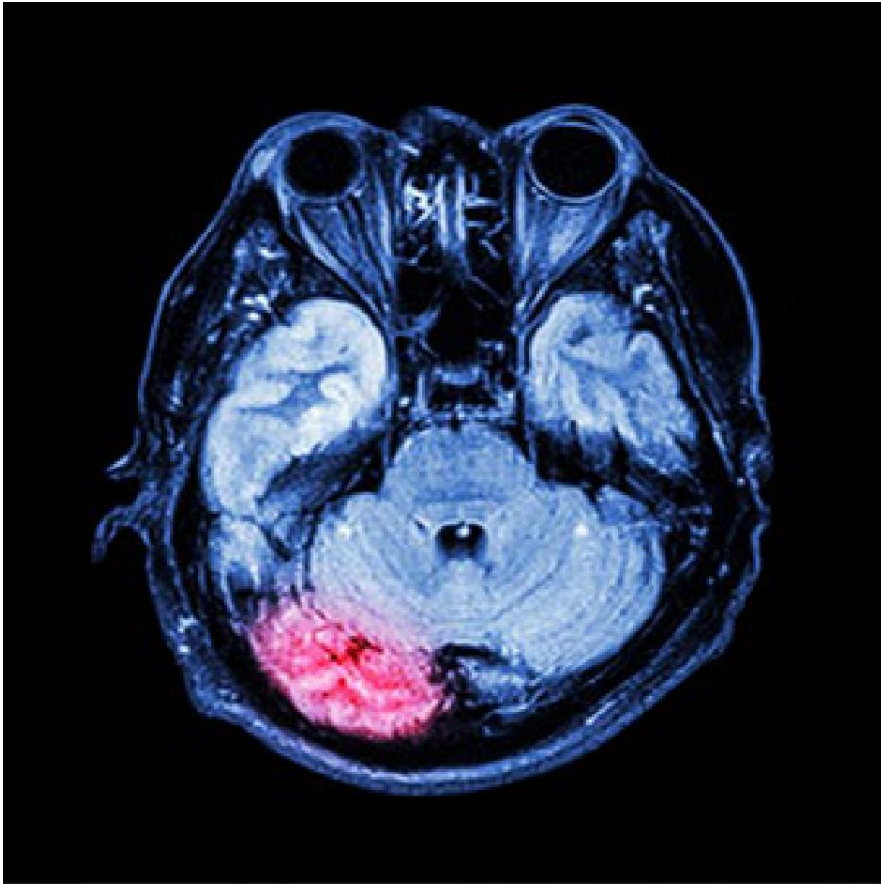




Brain Tumor (Overview)



Overview

This is a mass of abnormal cells. It may be inside your brain, or it may be next to your brain. It can grow and press harmfully against healthy brain tissue. This can cause a wide range of problems throughout your body. A brain tumor can severely impact your life.

Types

There are many types of brain tumors. They can be classified in different ways. A tumor can be classified by where it originally formed. A tumor that originates in your brain is called a "primary" tumor. A primary tumor can be noncancerous or it can be cancerous. A tumor that originates in another part of your body and then travels to your brain is called a "metastatic" tumor. Metastatic tumors are always cancerous.

Symptoms

Because the brain is so complex, a brain tumor can affect you in many different ways. A tumor can cause physical problems, such as headaches, nausea, and seizures. It can cause behavioral changes, such as confusion and impulsiveness. Your symptoms depend on your particular tumor and its location.

Treatment

A brain tumor can be treated in many different ways. It can be treated with medications. It can be targeted with radiation designed to shrink its cells. Some tumors can be removed surgically. Your healthcare provider can create a care plan that is right for your needs.

