

Medulloblastoma - Childhood - Overview [1]

This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board](#) [2], 05/2014

ON THIS PAGE: You will find some basic information about this disease and the parts of the body it may affect. This is the first page of Cancer.Net's Guide to Childhood Medulloblastoma. To see other pages, use the menu on the side of your screen. Think of that menu as a roadmap to this full guide.

Medulloblastoma is a type of brain tumor. A brain tumor begins when normal cells in the brain change and grow uncontrollably, forming a mass. A tumor can be cancerous or benign. A cancerous tumor is malignant, meaning it can spread to other parts of the body. A benign tumor means the tumor will not spread.

The brain and spinal column make up the central nervous system (CNS), where all vital functions are controlled, including thought, speech, and body strength. Medulloblastoma begins in granular cells in the cerebellum, which is the back of the brain. The cerebellum controls body movement and coordination.

Medulloblastoma occurs most commonly in children, and this section is about childhood medulloblastoma. Learn more about other types of [CNS tumors in children](#) [3] and [brain tumors in adults](#) [4].

Looking for More of an Overview?

If you would like additional introductory information, explore these related items. Please note these links take you to other sections on Cancer.Net:

- [Cancer.Net Patient Education Videos](#): View short videos led by ASCO experts in [childhood cancer](#) [5] and [brain tumors](#) [6] that provide basic information and areas of research.

To continue reading this guide, use the menu on the side of your screen to select another section.

Links:

[1] <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/medulloblastoma-childhood/overview>

[2] <http://www.cancer.net/about-us>

[3] <http://www.cancer.net/node/18660>

[4] <http://www.cancer.net/node/18562>

[5] <http://www.cancer.net/node/27386>

[6] <http://www.cancer.net/node/27391>