Meningioma - Latest Research [1]

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ON THIS PAGE: You will read about the scientific research being done now to learn more about meningioma and how to treat it. To see other pages, use the menu on the side of your screen.

Doctors are working to learn more about meningioma, ways to prevent it, how to best treat it, and how to provide the best care to people diagnosed with this disease. The following areas of research may include new options for patients through clinical trials [3]. Always talk with your doctor about the diagnostic and treatment options best for you.

- **Hormonal drugs.** Research has shown a possible link between meningioma and hormone levels.
- **New treatments.** New treatments that target the proteins that a tumor uses to grow are being studied in clinical trials. These types of treatments include the following:
  - Immunotherapy boosts the body?s natural defenses to fight the tumor. It uses materials made either by the body or in a laboratory to improve, target, or restore immune system function. Learn more about immunotherapy [4].
  - Drugs affecting other functions inside of tumor cells, including those that help tumor cells divide. Some of these are directed to specific pathways that may be unique or abnormally regulated compared with healthy cells. These types of treatments are called targeted therapy [5]. Several studies are examining this treatment approach.
  - Anti-angiogenesis therapy focuses on stopping angiogenesis, which is the process of making new blood vessels. Because a tumor needs the nutrients delivered by blood vessels to grow and spread, the goal of anti-angiogenesis therapies is to starve the tumor. Anti-angiogenesis is a type of targeted therapy [5].
  - Gene therapy seeks to correct faulty genes that are causing tumor growth.
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Directing electric fields through a portable device called the NovoTTF-100A for cancerous meningiomas.

- **Palliative care.** Clinical trials are underway to find better ways of reducing symptoms and side effects of current meningioma treatments in order to improve patients? comfort and quality of life.

Looking for More About the Latest Research?

If you would like additional information about the latest areas of research regarding brain tumors, explore these related items that take you outside of this guide:

- To find clinical trials specific to your diagnosis, talk with your doctor or search online clinical trial databases now [6].
- Visit ASCO?s *CancerProgress.Net* [7] website to learn more about the historical pace of research for brain tumors. Please note this link takes you to a separate ASCO website.
- Visit the website of the Conquer Cancer Foundation [8] to find out how to help support research for every tumor type. Please note this link takes you to a separate ASCO website.

The next section in this guide is Coping with Side Effects [9] *and it offers some guidance in how to cope with the physical, emotional, and social changes that meningioma and its treatment can bring. Or, use the menu on the side of your screen to choose another section to continue reading this guide.*

Links:
[1] http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/meningioma/latest-research
[2] http://www.cancer.net/about-us
[3] http://www.cancer.net/node/19274
[4] http://www.cancer.net/node/24726
[5] http://www.cancer.net/node/24729
[6] http://www.cancer.net/node/24878
[7] http://www.cancerprogress.net/timeline/brain
[8] http://www.conquercancerfoundation.org/research-results
[9] http://www.cancer.net/node/19275