

[Pituitary Gland Tumor - Risk Factors](#) [1]

This section has been reviewed and approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board](#) [2], 03/2016

ON THIS PAGE: You will find out more about the factors that increase the chance of developing a pituitary gland tumor. To see other pages, use the menu.

A risk factor is anything that increases a person's chance of developing a tumor. Although risk factors often influence the development of a tumor, most do not directly cause a tumor. Some people with several risk factors never develop a tumor, while others with no known risk factors do. However, knowing your risk factors and talking about them with your doctor may help you make more informed lifestyle and health care choices.

There is no evidence that environmental factors play a role in the development of a pituitary gland tumor. The only known risk factors are the 3 hereditary syndromes explained below.

[Genetic testing](#) [3] is available for these conditions.

- **Multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1 (MEN1).** Families with [MEN1](#) [4] have an increased risk of pituitary gland tumors.
- **Carney complex.** The [Carney complex](#) [5] is another genetic condition that can increase the risk of a pituitary gland tumor.
- **Familial acromegaly.** Acromegaly is a condition in adults that is caused by too much growth hormone. Familial acromegaly can occur as part of MEN1, described above, or alone within a family.

[The next section in this guide is Symptoms and Signs](#) [6]. It explains what body changes or medical problems this disease can cause. Or, use the menu to choose another section to continue reading this guide.

Links

[1] <http://www.cancer.net/cancer-types/pituitary-gland-tumor/risk-factors>

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

[3] <http://www.cancer.net/node/24895>

[4] <http://www.cancer.net/node/19366>

[5] <http://www.cancer.net/node/18659>

[6] <http://www.cancer.net/node/19539>