

Seeking Care For Your Brain Tumor: Where You Receive Your Surgery and Treatment Matters



Not all healthcare facilities are created equal.

In choosing where to receive treatment for your brain tumor, it is critical that you find the most expert care possible. This means being treated by specialists who care for large numbers of brain tumor patients, and who are committed to pursuing the most advanced treatments available. This level of expertise is most often found in large medical centers.

In addition to expert care, large medical centers typically offer facilities, diagnostic equipment, and services not commonly available at smaller hospitals. This includes access to clinical trials and advanced therapies for both the initial diagnosis and for possible recurrence of your tumor.

Even among large medical centers, not all facilities are created equal in treating brain tumors, which is why we encourage you to seek care at either an **NCI Designated Cancer Center** or a **Brain Tumor Center of Excellence**.

NCI Designated Centers:

National Cancer Institute (NCI) Designated Cancer Centers are institutions certified by NCI and dedicated to research in the development of more effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

- They meet rigorous criteria for world-class, state-of-the-art programs in multidisciplinary cancer research.
- These cancer centers are institutions dedicated to research in the development of more effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- They put significant resources into developing research programs, faculty, and facilities that will lead to better approaches to prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.
- NCI designation not only recognizes excellence but open doors to greater federal funding, information sharing, and resources.

- They offer clinical programs that offer patients the latest forms of treatment for a wide range of cancers as well as access to clinical trials of experimental treatments.
- They offer training for scientists, physicians, surgeons and other professionals seeing specialized training or board certification in cancer-related disciplines.
- They offer public education and outreach about cancer prevention and screening.
- More information can be found at www.cancer.gov

Brain Tumor Centers of Excellence

There are many similarities between NCI Centers and Brain Tumor Centers of Excellence. Brain Tumor Centers of Excellence also offer excellent care delivered by Brain Tumor Specialists including:

- Neuro-surgeons who are Brain Tumor Specialists
- Neuro-oncologists who are specifically trained in the most advanced treatments available for brain cancer.
- Radiation oncologists who specialize in brain tumors

Importantly, they have considerable expertise in treating brain tumors, caring are for more than 200 brain tumor patients annually and most offer clinical trials.

How Can the EBCI Direct Connect Program Help Me Access These Centers?

EBCI has an extensive network of colleagues at NCI and Brain Tumor Centers around the country. We are happy to Directly Connect you with the clinical specialists and primary investigators (PIs) to expedite your access to advanced care.

See More EBCI Patient Resources at www.endbraincancer.org

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