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ONCOLOGY OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

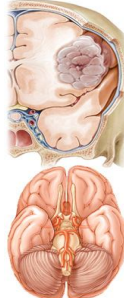
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Brain & CNS Tumors

Definition
A brain tumor is an abnormal growth of cells (neoplasm) in the skull. A spinal tumor is a growth associated with the spinal cord. Tumors are classified as **noncancerous tumors** (benign tumors) or **cancerous tumors** (malignant tumors)

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Epidemiology of brain tumors

- About **40,000** people are diagnosed with a brain tumor each year in the United States
- Gliomas** account for more than **70%** of all brain tumors
- Caucasians have a higher incidence than African or Asian populations
- Fewer than **3%** of glioblastoma patients are still alive at **5 years** after diagnosis, older age being the most significant and consistent prognostic factor of poorer outcome
- Brain and spinal cord tumors in children are the second most common form of childhood cancer, with about **1,500 children** developing these tumors each year
- Almost **10,000** Americans are diagnosed each year with a spinal cord tumor

Kernohan grading

The Kernohan grading system defines progressive malignancy of astrocytomas as follows:
Grade 1 tumors are benign astrocytomas.
Grade 2 tumors are low-grade astrocytomas.
Grade 3 tumors are anaplastic astrocytomas.
Grade 4 tumors are glioblastomas.

St Anne-Mayo grading

The St Anne-Mayo grading system also is used to grade astrocytomas; however, this system uses four morphologic criteria to assign a grade:
a) **nuclear atypia**,
b) **mitosis**,
c) **endothelial proliferation**-piled-up endothelial cells. NOT hypervascularity
d) **neovrosis**.

The St Anne-Mayo grade has four categories of tumors:
Grade 1 tumors do not meet any of the criteria.
Grade 2 tumors meet one criterion, usually nuclear atypia.
Grade 3 tumors meet two criteria, usually nuclear atypia and mitosis.
Grade 4 tumors meet three or four of the criteria

WHO grading

The World Health Organization (WHO) grading system is contained in the volume *Histological Typing of Tumours of the Central Nervous System*, whose first edition dates back to 1979, the second to 1993 and last one to 2007.

The WHO grade has four categories of tumors:
Grade I tumors are slow-growing, nonmalignant, and associated with long-term survival.
Grade II tumors are relatively slow-growing but sometimes recur as higher grade tumors. They can be nonmalignant or malignant.
Grade III tumors are malignant and often recur as higher grade tumors.
Grade IV tumors reproduce rapidly and are very aggressive malignant tumors.

From the histological point of view the WHO system is based on the same criteria as the St Anne-Mayo system

ICD-O scale

The first edition of the [International Classification of Diseases \(ICD\)](#) dates back to 1893, the current review (ICD-10) dates 1994. In 1976 the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) publishes the first edition of the [International Classification of Diseases for Oncology \(ICD-O\)](#), now at the third edition (ICD-O-3, 2000).

In this last edition, the Arabic numeral after the character "T" indicates the "behavior" of the neoplasia, with the following meaning:
/0 benign neoplasia
/1 uncertain neoplasia (benign or malignant)
/2 neoplasia *in situ*
/3 primary infiltrative malignant neoplasia
/6 secondary malignant neoplasia
/9 malignant neoplasia, uncertain if primitive or secondary

A brain tumor composed of benign cells, but located in a vital area (as the brain is), can be considered to be life-threatening — although the tumor and its cells would not be classified as malignant

WHO classification of the tumors of the CNS

For each tumor there are the WHO official name, the **ICD-O** code (with Arabic numeral, where /0 indicates "benign" tumor, /3 malignant tumor and /1 borderline tumor), and with Roman numeral the WHO Grade (a parameter connected with the "aggressiveness" of the tumor). **It defines histologist after histological assessment**

1. Tumors of neuroepithelial tissue

1.1. **Astrocytic tumors**

1.1.1 **Fibrocytic astrocytoma** (ICD-O 9421/1, WHO grade I)
1.1.1a **Pilocytic astrocytoma** (ICD-O 9425/3, WHO grade I)
1.1.2 **Subependymal giant cell astrocytoma** (ICD-O 9384/1, WHO grade I)
1.1.3 **Diffuse astrocytoma, non-pilo-cyctic** (ICD-O 9424/3, WHO grade II)
1.1.4 **Classic astrocytoma** (ICD-O 9400/3, WHO grade II)
1.1.5 **Anaplastic astrocytoma** (ICD-O 9401/3, WHO grade III)
1.1.6 **Glioblastoma** (ICD-O 9403/3, WHO grade IV)
1.1.6a **Classic glioblastoma** (ICD-O 9441/3, WHO grade IV)
1.1.6b **Gliosarcoma** (ICD-O 9442/3, WHO grade IV)
1.1.7 **Oligodendrogloma** (ICD-O 9381/3, WHO grade III)

1.2. **Oligodendroglial tumors**

1.2.1 **Oligodendroglioma** (ICD-O 9450/3, WHO grade II)
1.2.2 **Anaplastic oligodendroglioma** (ICD-O 9451/3, WHO grade III)

1.3. **Oligoastrocytic tumors**

1.3.1 **Oligoastrocytoma** (ICD-O 9382/3, WHO grade II)
1.3.2 **Anaplastic oligoastrocytoma** (ICD-O 9382/3, WHO grade III)

1.4. **Ependymal tumors**

1.4.1 **Subependymoma** (ICD-O 9383/1, WHO grade I)
1.4.2 **Typical ependymoma** (ICD-O 9394/1, WHO grade I)
1.4.3 **Atypical ependymoma** (ICD-O 9391/3, WHO grade II)
1.4.4 **Anaplastic ependymoma** (ICD-O 9392/3, WHO grade III)

1.5. **Choroid plexus tumors**

1.5.1 **Choroid plexus papilloma** (ICD-O 9390/0, WHO grade I)
1.5.2 **Atypical choroid plexus papilloma** (ICD-O 9390/1, WHO grade II)
1.5.3 **Choroid plexus carcinoma** (ICD-O 9390/3, WHO grade III)

1.6. **Other neuroepithelial tumors**

1.6.1 **Amblyoplasma** (ICD-O 9430/0, WHO grade I)
1.6.2 **Chondrosarcoma of the third ventricle** (ICD-O 9444/1, WHO grade II)
1.6.3 **Angiosarcoma** (ICD-O 9431/1, WHO grade I)

1.7. **Neuronal and mixed neuronal-glioma tumors**

1.7.1 **Dysplastic gangliocytoma of cerebellum (Liemite-Dubois)** (ICD-O 9493/0)
1.7.2 **Metaplastic thalamic parvocellular glioma** (ICD-O 9442/1, WHO grade II)
1.7.3 **Systemic xanthane neuroepithelial tumor** (ICD-O 9413/0, WHO grade I)
1.7.4 **Gangliocytoma** (ICD-O 9492/0, WHO grade I)
1.7.5 **Ganglioglioma** (ICD-O 9406/1, WHO grade I)
1.7.6 **Neoplastic gangliocytoma** (ICD-O 9505/3, WHO grade II)
1.7.7 **Cerebellar neurocytoma** (ICD-O 9506/1, WHO grade II)
1.7.8 **Subependymal neurocytoma** (ICD-O 9506/1, WHO grade II)
1.7.9 **Cerebellar liponeurocytoma** (ICD-O 9507/1, WHO grade II)
1.7.10 **Pillular glioblastoma** (ICD-O 9509/1, WHO grade I)
1.7.11 **ICD-O 9509/1, WHO grade I**
1.7.12 **Paraganglioma** (ICD-O 8680/1, WHO grade I)

1.8. **Tumors of the pineal region**

1.8.1 **Pineocytoma** (ICD-O 9361/1, WHO grade I)
1.8.2 **Pineal parenchymal tumour of intermediate differentiation** (ICD-O 9362/3, WHO grade II, III)
1.8.3 **Pineoblastoma** (ICD-O 9360/3, WHO grade IV)
1.8.4 **Suprasellar tumour of the pineal region** (ICD-O 9395/3, WHO grade II, III)

1.9. **Embryonal tumors**

1.9.1 **Medulloepithelioma** (ICD-O 9470/3, WHO grade IV)
1.9.1B **TIC (ICD-O 9470/3) with embryonic molecularly** (ICD-O 9471/3, WHO grade IV)
1.9.1c **Anaplastic medulloepithelioma** (ICD-O 9470/4, WHO grade IV)
1.9.2 **Optic chiasm neuroepithelial tumour** (ICD-O 9473/3, WHO grade IV)
1.9.2a **Chiasm neuroepithelioma** (ICD-O 9500/3, WHO grade IV)
1.9.3 **Typical teratoid hamartoma** (ICD-O 9508/0, WHO grade IV)

2. Tumors of cranial and paraspinal nerves

3. Tumors of the meninges

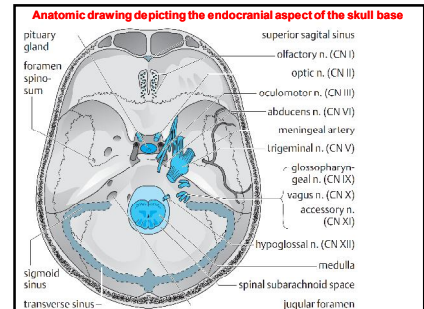
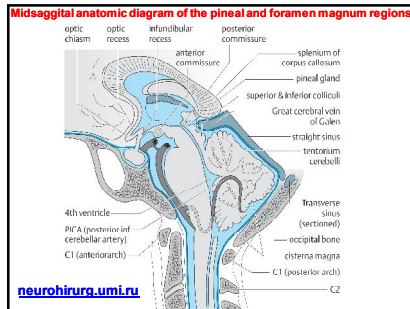
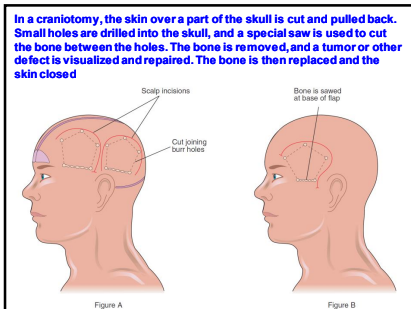
3.1 Tumors of meningotheial cells
3.2 Mesenchymal tumors
3.3 Primary melanocytic lesions
3.4 Other neoplasms related to the meninges

4. Tumors of the haematopoietic system

5. Germ cell tumors

6. Tumors of the chiasmossellar area

7. Metastatic tumors



Common Primary and Metastatic Spinal Cord Tumors

Primary Tumors	Metastatic Tumors
<i>Extramedullary (89%)</i>	Breast (22%)
Neurofibroma (29%)	Lung (15%)
Meningioma (25%)	Prostate (10%)
Sarcoma (12%)	Lymphoma (10%)
Other (10–15%)	Sarcoma (9%)
Dermoid	Kidney (7%)
Epidermoid	Gastrointestinal tract (5%)
<i>Intramedullary (11%)</i>	Melanoma (4%)
Ependymoma (55%)	Unknown primary (4%)
Astrocytoma (31%)	Head and neck (3%)
Vascular tumors (4%)	
Other (5–10%)	
Mixed glioma	
Oligodendroglioma	

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Craniography makes it possible to identify a number of X-ray symptoms: 1) **Changes in bones** caused by increased intracranial pressure (depending on the developmental stage of the process and the patient's age): the **deepening of "finger" depressions**, **thinning of the bones of the skull**, **widening of the sutures** (in infants); **osteoporosis of back of the sella turcica** and of sphenoid wing, **strengthening vascular pattern**, **expanding diploic channels**, deepening pits pischionian granulations; 2) **Focal signs** (corresponding to the tumor site): **calcification**, **osteosclerosis**, **hyperostosis**, **local thinning**, **osteoporosis**, **atrophy**, **osteolysis**, **destruction**, **increasing the local vascular pattern**; 3) **Indirect symptoms** (due to mass effect of a growing tumor): **dislocation - the pineal gland**, **choroid plexus**, **falx of the brain**, **brain vessels**

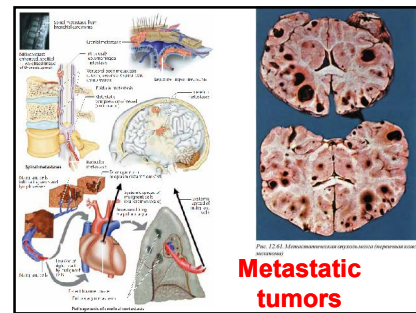
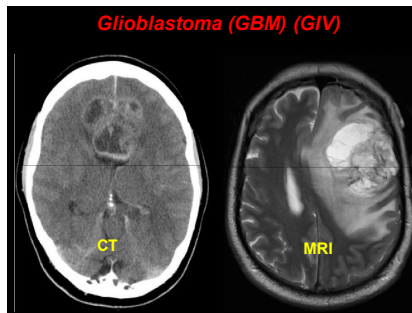
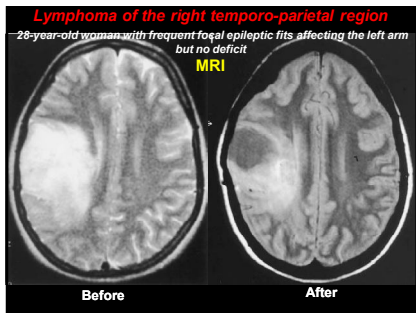
Computed tomography (CT) based on detected changes in optical density makes it possible to diagnose tumors, to determine the topography of the process, the **size of the tumor**, **detect calcifications**, **cystic components**, the **zone of necrosis**, **verify the fact of spontaneous hemorrhage in the parenchyma of the tumor and adjacent brain structures**, **an idea histostructure of the tumor**, **differentiate tumor tissue from edema of the brain substance**. The additional (indirect) diagnostic CT signs of tumor mass effect are: **the shift of median structures of the brain**, **the sickle of the brain**, **choroid plexus**, **ventricles and aqueduct** of the brain, the deformation of subarachnoid space and cisterns of the brain, and compression in a limited area of lateral, III and IV ventricles, presence of hydrocephalus, local destructive changes in the bones of the skull

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is substantially complementary to the results of CT with respect to the location and spread of tumors to determine topographic and anatomical features of its growth, the nature and extent of tumor involvement in the process of adjacent brain structures. MRI is superior to CT in the diagnosis of tumors did not accumulate the contrast agent (eg, low-grade gliomas). In the diagnosis of calcifications, bone-destructive changes, delineation of the tumor and perifocal edema MRI features are limited. Addition to the standard MRI neurooncology used **functional MRI** (preoperative mapping of areas of the brain), **MR angiography** (study of the great vessels of the brain, determination of the degree of vascularization of the tumor) **MR spectroscopy** (the study of regional metabolism) **MR thermography** (check the temperature gradient during the thermal degradation of the tumor)

Positron emission tomography (PET) allows non-invasively investigate the biological properties of the local tumor and the substance of the brain, to map functionally important areas, timely detection of recurrent tumor growth, tumor differentiation grade **Single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT)** is carried out with the introduction of radiopharmaceuticals (99mTc pertechnetat, 99mTcGMPAO, 99mTcMIBI). SPECT can identify and localize the tumor, to get an idea of the degree of malignancy and vascularity, diagnose multifocal neoplastic lesions of the brain to carry out dynamic monitoring in the postoperative period **Angiography** (carotid, vertebral, selective) is carried out to visualize cerebral vessels, to clarify their relationship topografoanatomicheskikh with the tumor, determine the degree of vascularization and to identify sources of blood supply to tumors?

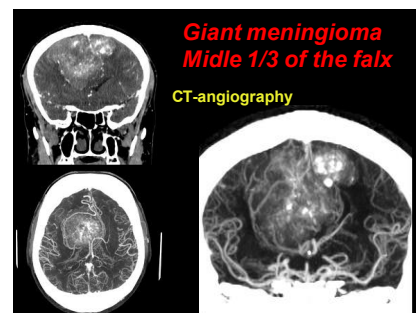
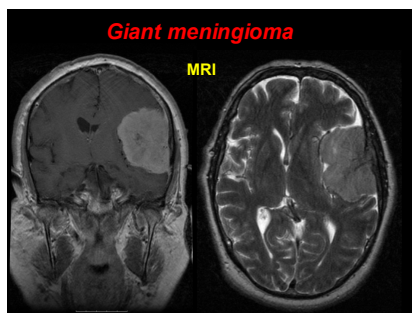
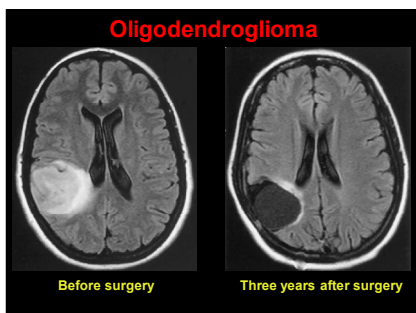
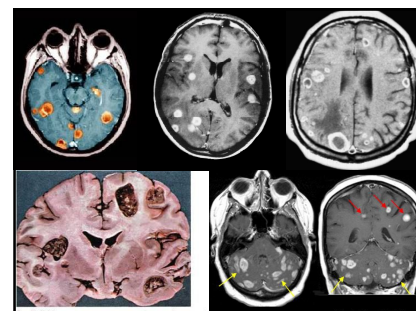
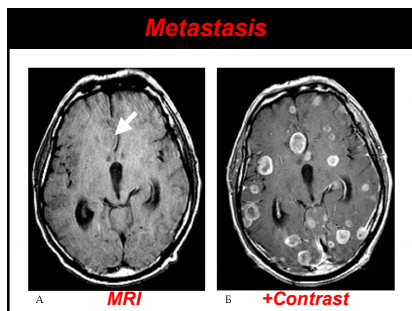
Survival prognosis

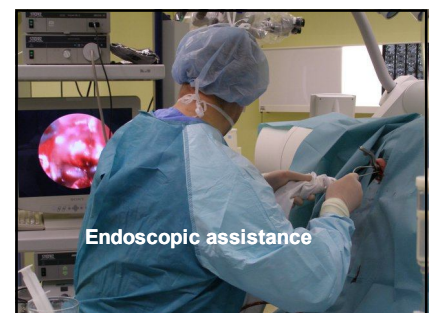
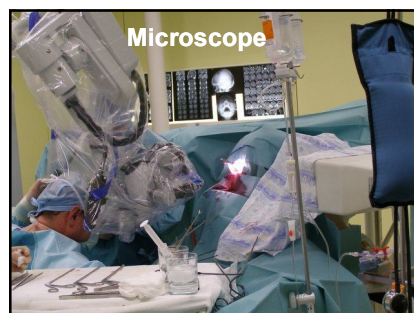
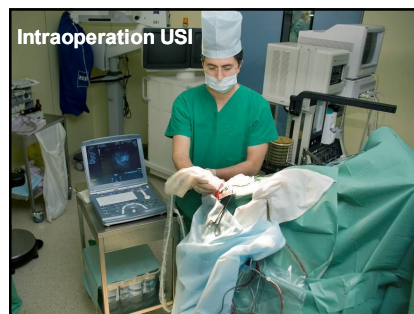
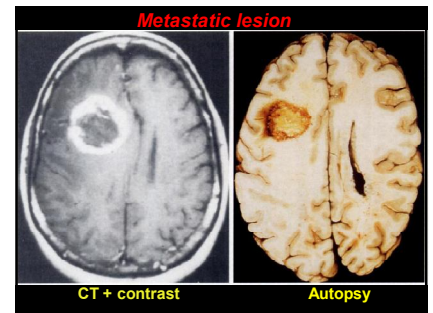
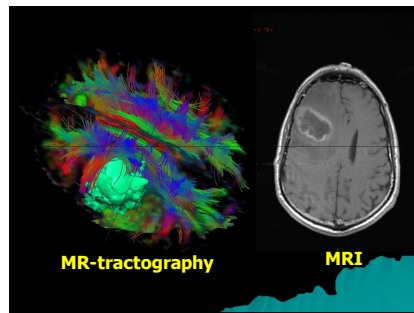
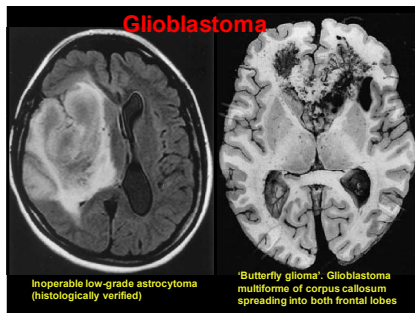
Histology	Treatments	Time to tumor recurrence	Median survival
GBM (IV)	Srgry/RT/CT	6 months	11 mon
AA (III)	Srgry/RT/CT	18 months	3 years
Astrocyt II	Srgry/RT	3 years	6 years
Astrocyt I	Surgery	8 years	10 year
Lung met	Surgery/RT		12 wks
Breast met	Surgery/RT		25 wks
Colon met	Surgery/RT		48 wks
Melanoma	Surgery/RT		26 wks
Renal met	Surgery/RT		8 wks

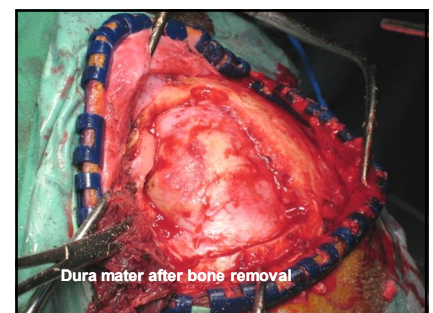
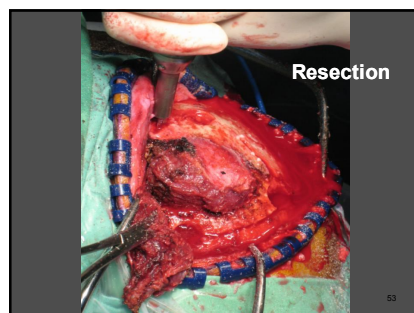
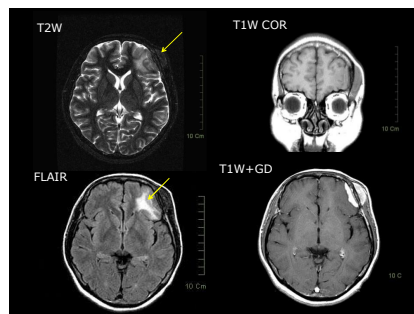
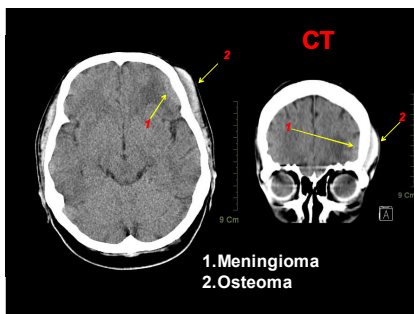
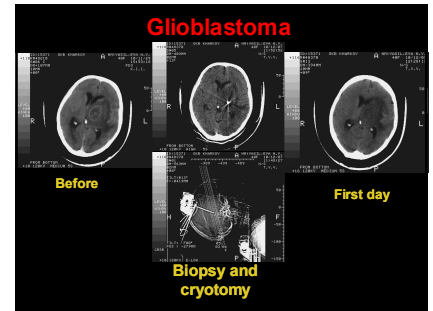
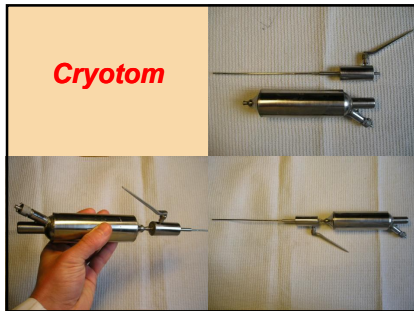


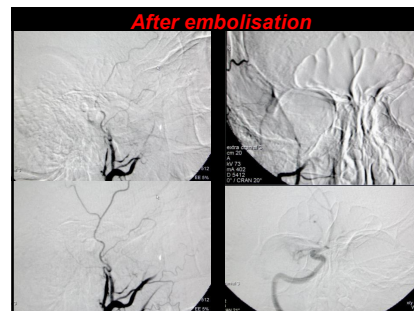
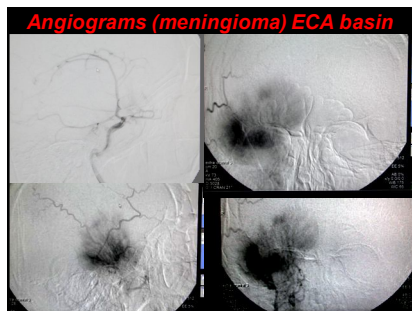
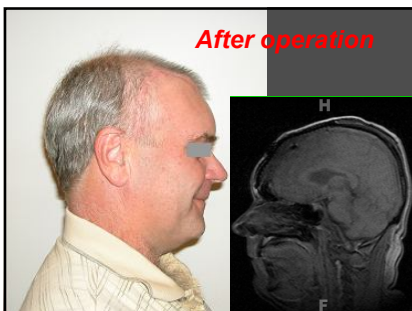
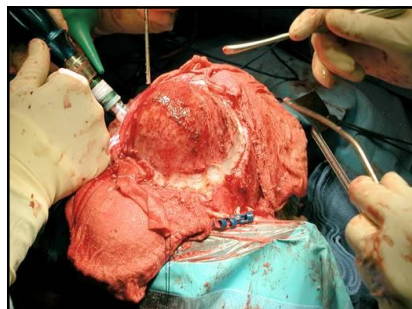
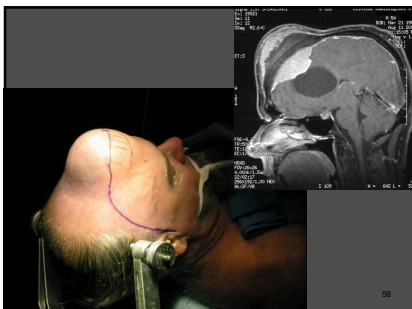
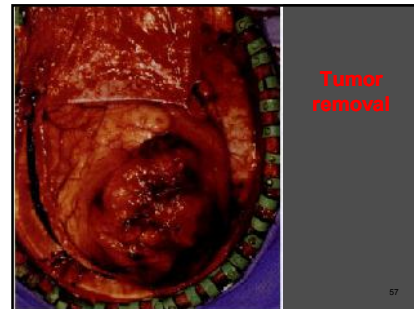
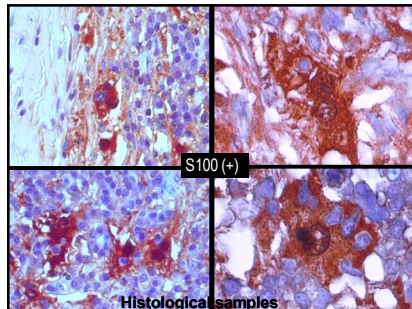
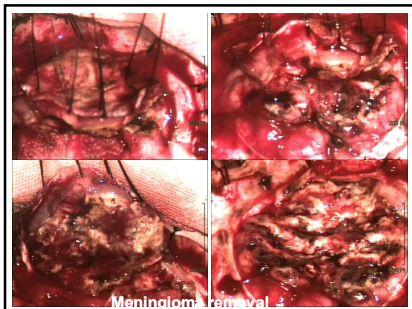
Common Primary and Metastatic Brain Tumors

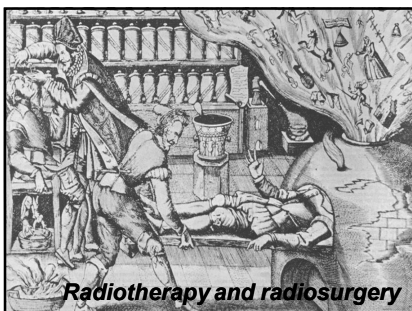
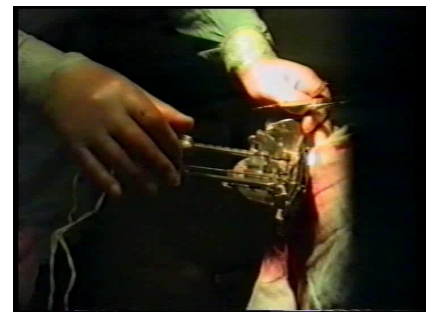
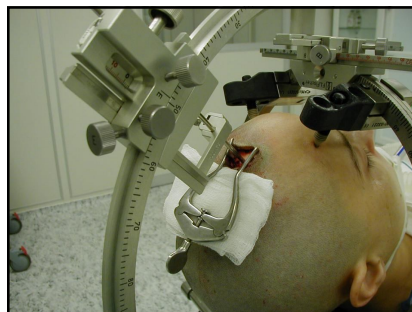
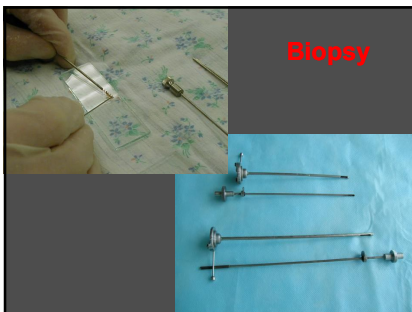
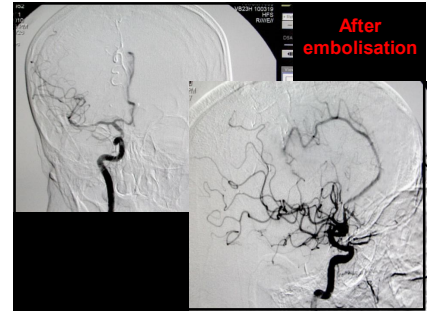
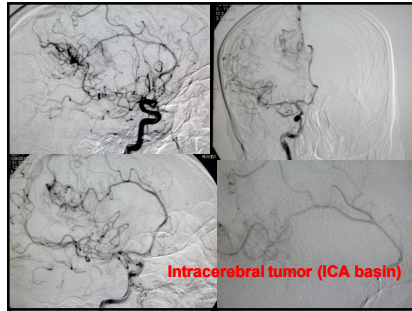
Primary Tumors	Metastatic Tumors
Adults	
Glioblastoma multiforme (35-40%)	Lung (64%)
Astrocytoma grades I-III (18-20%)	Breast (14%)
Meningioma (18%)	Unknown primary (8%)
Pituitary adenoma (9%)	Melanoma (6%)
Oligodendroglioma (5%)	Colorectal (3%)
Schwannoma (3-5%)	Hypernephroma (2%)
Ependymoma (2%)	
Children	
Astrocytoma, low-grade (15-30%)	Wilm's tumor (18.6%)
Astrocytoma, high-grade (8-15%)	Rhabdomyosarcoma (18.6%)
Medulloblastoma (18-25%)	Osteogenic sarcoma (16.3%)
Brainstem glioma (6-15%)	Germ cell tumors (16.3%)
Ependymoma (6-13%)	Ewing's sarcoma (9.3%)
Craniopharyngioma (6-9%)	Neuroblastoma (4.6%)
Pineal region (2-5%)	Hepatocellular carcinoma (4.6%)











There are several types of devices for stereotactic radiosurgery: **Gamma Knife, LINAC, XKnife, SynergyS, Trilogy, CyberKnife, Novalis, and Sycotron.**

The principle of operation is the same for all machines, and they differ in energy sources and methods of targeting radiation to the target. So for example a linear accelerator LINAC, which basically uses X-rays and electromagnetic waves of energy all the way allowing to reach 46 MeV. During the procedure, the treatment unit rotates around the patient, providing accurate radiation, focusing on the tumor? The phone Gamma Knife uses 201 radioactive cobalt source and electromagnetic wave, with the ability to achieve the maximum energy of up to 1,25 MeV

