

The Biennial International Pediatric Oncology Congress In Memory of Prof. Vossough







Cancer is the second leading cause of mortality in the world, and considered as global life-threatening health. Cancer causes a heavy global economic cost estimated at more than trillion dollars per year. Brain tumors are the second most common cancers among children (after leukemia), which is considered as the leading cause of mortality in childhood cancer.

The types of common brain tumors in children are different from adults. Childhood brain tumors often behave in a different way than brain tumors in adults. Therefore, it is imperative that children with brain tumors be treated at a specialized pediatric brain tumor centers.

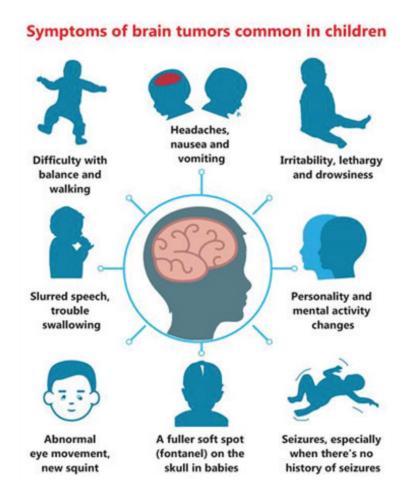
Common Pediatric Brain Tumors:

- Glioma (Low and high grade)
- Embryonal tumors like Medulloblastoma
- Ependymoma
- Craniopharyngioma
- Germ cell tumors

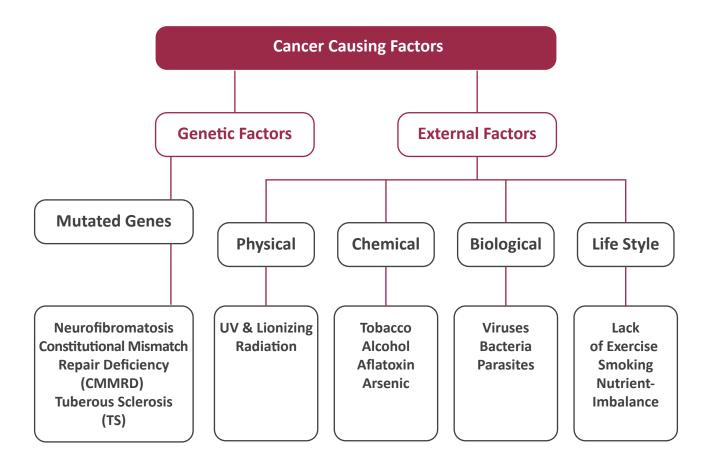
Symptoms:

Pediatric brain tumor symptoms are depending on tumor location and size within the brain as well as how quickly it's growing

Common symptoms of brain tumors are: difficulties with balance and walking, muscle strength, speech, eyesight, ability to think, learn and remember as well as personality or behavior changes. Headaches, Nausea and vomiting are other common symptoms in pediatric brain tumors.



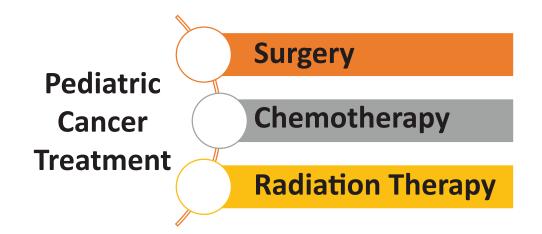
Causes:



Treatment:

The global trends in pediatric oncology is moving towards new findings to achieve more efficient & safe strategies for cancer diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment. The universal treatments are categorized into two main strategies; the common and novel methods.

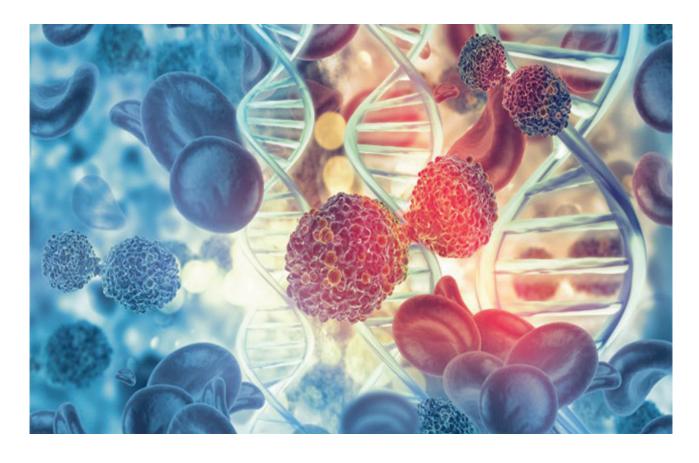
The Most Common Methods:





The Novel Methods:

Pediatric
Cancer
Hormone Therapy
Treatment
Immunotherapy
Stem Cell Therapy



Comparison of Advantageous and Disadvantageous of New Cancer Therapies:

Treatment approach

Advantages

Disadvantages

Stem cell therapy

Safe and effective Can be combined with other strategies
Decreases tumor volumes and extend survival

Treatment not durable Potential tumorigenesis

Targeted therapy

High specificity
Reduced adverse reactions

Long-term side effects in question

Ablation therapy

Precise treatment
Possibility to perform along with MRI imaging (magnetic hyperthermia)

Long-term side effects in question

Gene therapy

Expression of proapoptotic and chemosensitizing genes
Expression of wild-type tumor suppressor genes
Expression of genes able to solicit specific anti-tumor immune responses
Targeted silencing of oncogenes and safety (RNAi)

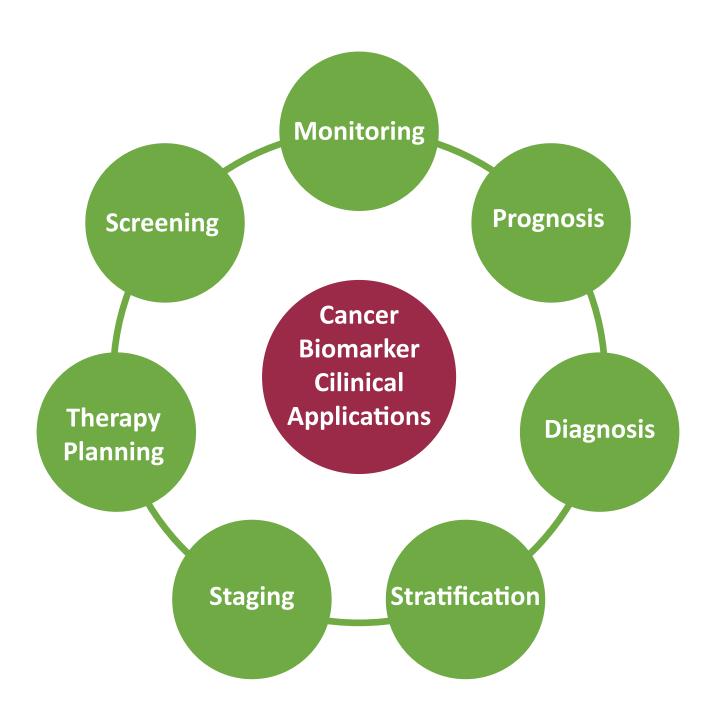
Genome integration
Limited efficacy in specific subsets
of patients
High chances to be neutralized by the
immune system
Off-target effects and inflammation (RNAi)
Need for ad hoc delivery systems (RNAi)
Setup of doses and suitable conditions
for controlled release (RNAi)

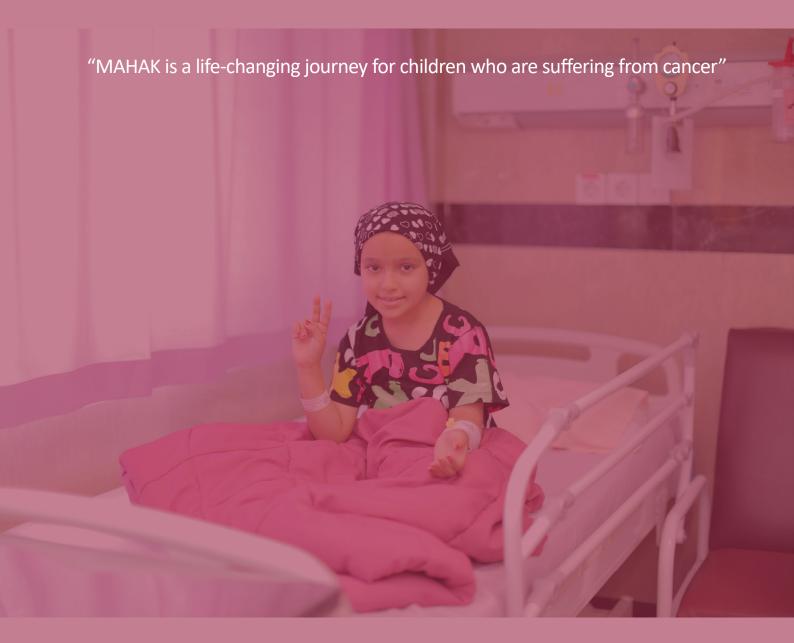
Natural antioxidants

Easily available in large quantities
The exploitation of their intrinsic properties

Long-term side effects in question

Biomarkers Trends in Pediatric Cancer Diagnostic & Treatment:





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