

UCLA BRAIN TUMOR CENTER



UCLA is home to one of the world's leading centers for the research, diagnosis and treatment of brain tumors. Since 1991, we have cared for nearly 5,000 people with brain tumors. Among the top five programs in the country, the UCLA Brain Tumor Center draws patients from all over the world. We take an aggressive treatment approach, caring for patients with more than 30 different types of brain tumors. We offer personalized precision therapies that rely on the most advanced imaging and surgical tools, the latest radiotherapy and chemotherapy agents, and the most promising and innovative clinical trials.

Our expertise is showcased throughout every aspect of our program. We are a national leader in immunotherapy. We pioneer advanced techniques such as awake craniotomy brain mapping. We harness new technology like virtual reality for surgical planning, and integrate fMRI and next-generation imaging modalities into our program. Combined with our utmost compassion for patients, the UCLA Brain Tumor Center offers care that is second to none.







Recognition for World-Class Brain Tumor Care

• UCLA is ranked among the top eight medical centers in the nation for neurology and neurosurgery, and among the top five for cancer programs by *U.S. News and World Report*, achieving excellent scores in survival, patient safety, patient volume, nurse-to-patient ratios, advanced technologies, and key patient services.



- Our cancer programs have earned the prestigious "comprehensive" designation from the National Cancer Institute for achieving the highest standards of excellence in education, basic science, clinical research, cancer prevention and patient care.
- UCLA is among the top five programs in the country in National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding awards for neurosurgery, neurology and radiation oncology, with significant dedication to brain tumor and cognitive function research.
- Our internationally recognized clinicians hold board leadership positions in numerous journals, professional societies and industry groups, including the National Brain Tumor Society, the American Board of Neurosurgery and the American Society for Radiation Oncology.
- UCLA has the second-largest pituitary tumor program on the West Coast (based on patient volume).

At the Forefront of Brain Tumor Clinical Research

Using an integrated approach to research and clinical care, we consider every patient for possible participation in clinical trials to help them achieve the best possible clinical outcome. As one of the first programs in the country with a dedicated brain tumor bio/data repository, we use proprietary data management software to determine the most appropriate trials for each patient.

At UCLA, investigator-initiated clinical trials have yielded promising new practices that produce increasingly better outcomes.

Highlights of our clinical research include:

- Our team was the first to develop a dendritic cell (DC-based) brain tumor vaccine that has helped some of our glioblastoma patients thrive more than 10 years after their initial diagnosis — far exceeding the median survival rate of two years.
- First-in-human use of a replication-competent retroviral gene therapy treatment (Toca 511) for malignant gliomas.
- Leaders in the first clinical trials of anti-angiogenesis agents (Avastin) for management of glioblastoma.
- With one of the largest brain tumor imaging databases in the world, UCLA is pushing the envelope through development of new cutting-edge MRI and PET imaging techniques.
- First-in-human use of the high-precision 4π radiotherapy for recurrent glioblastomas.
- UCLA actively participates in multi-center trials exploring the newest generation of medical therapies for pituitary and other tumor types.



Integrated Team Approach to Care for Malignant and Benign Tumor Cases

Experts from our brain tumor center meet every week to develop treatment pathways for patients, delivering innovative care specific to each patient. Our clinics are routinely integrated, and our weekly dedicated Brain Tumor Board, composed of experts representing every subspecialty, provides the best care possible to patients with complex cases.

Specialties represented in our Brain Tumor Center include:

- Neuro-oncology
- Neurosurgery
- Neuro-radiation oncology
- Neuroradiology
- Pediatric neuro-oncology
- Pediatric neurosurgery
- Neuro-anesthesiology
- Neuropathology
- Neuropsychology
- Nursing
- Social work
- Patient navigation

UCLA neurosurgeons use minimal and noninvasive treatments whenever these techniques can achieve comparable or better results compared to standard open surgical procedures. Using information obtained through genetic testing, we offer patients personalized radiation and chemotherapy treatments based on their unique needs. Throughout the entire care process, all patients undergo state-of-the-art imaging techniques found only at UCLA, providing comprehensive tumor information in unprecedented detail.

The UCLA Radiosurgery Program is a collaborative practice with special expertise in imaging, dosimetry and radiation therapy. The program coordinates individual care through a multidisciplinary approach involving specialists across radiation oncology, neurosurgery, neurology, neuro-ophthalmology and neuroradiology to deliver high focal radiation to malignant and benign tumors without damaging vital areas of the brain.

Our Pituitary Tumor Program's monthly case conference offers a unique environment for collaborative care. Drawing more clinicians than any other tumor conference, we meticulously review the most complex cases from every possible angle. This helps us select the most appropriate therapies and deliver them with a level of precision available in only a handful of centers across the country.

Data-Driven, Personalized Therapies

We recognize that just as each patient is different, each brain tumor has a unique molecular makeup. Part of what differentiates our program is that we analyze



tissue samples from each patient's tumor, evaluating its genetic and biochemical makeup. Harnessing the power of the tumor biorepository, we use predictive modeling to determine the most appropriate treatment.

Referring Your Patient to UCLA

We make it easy for referring providers to work with us:

Seamless coordination

One call is all it takes to refer your patient to UCLA. Our experienced team of nurse and patient navigators works with the physician team to determine which specialist(s) your patient needs to see and coordinates his or her initial appointments, treatment and follow-up care to ensure end-to-end coordination and engagement with your patient.

Easy access

We can usually see new patients within a week; however, if your patient needs immediate care, we can often accommodate same-day requests.

Continuous communication

Whether you prefer we assume your patient's cancer care or you are seeking expert consultation, we provide timely and detailed feedback.









UCLA Brain Tumor Center Box 956901 Los Angeles, CA 90095-6901

Brain Tumors Treated at UCLA

We diagnose and treat all types and grades of benign and malignant brain tumors, including:

Gliomas

- Astrocytomas
- Brainstem Gliomas
- Ependymomas
- Gangliogliomas
- Glioblastomas
- Oligodendrogliomas
- Medulloblastomas
- Mixed Gliomas
- Optic Nerve Gliomas

Metastatic Cancer

Metastatic Brain Tumors from:

- Breast Cancer
- Colon Cancer
- Lung Cancer
- Melanoma
- Renal Cell Cancer
- Other sites

Other Brain Tumors

- Brain Cysts
- Choroid Plexus
- Papillomas
- Central Nervous System Lymphoma
- Cystic Tumors
- Dermoid Tumors
- Germinomas
- Lymphoma
- Meningiomas
- Pineal Tumors
- Vascular Tumors

Skull Base Tumors

- Acoustic Neuroma
- Adenomas
- Chordomas
- Craniopharyngiomas
- Epidermoid Tumors
- Meningiomas

Pituitary Conditions

- Acromegaly
- Apoplexy
- Clinically Nonfunctioning
 Pituitary Adenomas
- Craniopharyngiomas
- Cushing's Disease
- Diabetes Insipidus
- Gigantism
- Nelson's Syndrome
- Pituitary Adenoma
- Prolactinoma
- Rathke's Cleft Cyst
- Thyrotropinoma

Spinal Cord Tumors

- Astrocytomas
- Ependymomas
- Meningiomas
- Schwannomas

Contact Us

For more information, or to refer a patient, call **1-844-UCLA-BTC** (1-844-825-2282)

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