



# Classification of the Intracranial Tumors based on their Location



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## Abstract

One of the important factors which can help the physicians to detect the type of the cranial tumors is their location. Based on the site of the tumor, it can become easier to guess its type. This is a brief review on the intracranial tumors classification based on their location.

**Keywords:** Intracranial Tumors; Classification; Location

## Body

Brain lesions including brain tumors or intracranial tumors can be classified into two main categories named primary and metastatic. Primary intracranial tumors can be subclassified as glial or non-glial and also as benign or malignant tumors. Benign tumors generally include meningiomas, chordomas, gangliocytomas, craniopharyngiomas, glomus jugulare, pituitary adenomas, pineocytomas and schwannomas. Malignant tumors generally include gliomas, astrocytomas, medulloblastomas, ependymomas, glioblastomas and oligodendroglioma. Rhabdoid tumors and hemangioblastomas are other types of brain tumors.

There are two main diagnostic tools to detect brain lesions including brain tumors and their location which are magnetic resonance imaging and computed tomography in general. Detection of the brain lesions location is of importance to predict their type and nature and would be of help in appropriate decision making to treat such lesions and also approach the relevant patients with more precision. Intrinsic cerebral hemispheres lesion may represent any ganglioglioma, glioblastoma, lymphoma, astrocytoma, oligodendroglioma or metastasis while extrinsic cerebral hemispheres lesion may represent any meningioma and arachnoid, dermoid or epidermoid cysts [1,4].

Any intrinsic lesion in posterior fossa can represent any medulloblastoma and astrocytoma specifically in pediatric groups and hemangioblastoma and metastasis. Extrinsic posterior fossa lesion may represent any meningioma, metastasis, schwannoma

or any arachnoid, dermoid or epidermoid cysts. In sellar and suprasellar region, craniopharyngioma and glioma of the optic nerve may be seen predominantly in the pediatric groups. Other lesions which can be seen in this region may be any meningioma, pituitary adenoma or any dermoid or epidermoid cyst. Pineal region's lesion may represent any astrocytoma, meningioma, germinoma, ependymoma, pineocytoma or blastoma or any teratoma. Astrocytoma is the most predominantly seen lesion in hypothalamus. In ventricular system, the lesion may be any meningioma, germinoma, choroid plexus papilloma, teratoma, ependymoma or any colloid cyst. In skull base and sinuses region, lesion can be any chordoma, osteoma, sinuses, ear or nasopharyngeal carcinoma, meningioma or any glomus jugulare tumor [2,3].

## Conclusion

It is important for the physicians to have knowledge about the common sites of brain tumors so that primary evaluation of the patients with brain tumors can be done appropriately.

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