

# Brain and spinal tumors

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# Lecture Outline

- Classification of CNS tumor
- Clinical presentation and management of glioma
- Metastatic brain tumor
- Meningioma
- Metastases of spine
- Primary spinal tumor

# Learning Purpose

- Understanding of CNS tumor
- How to evaluate CNS tumor
- Learn to manage brain and spinal tumor

# Classification of CNS tumor (WHO)

- Astrocytic tumors
- Oligodendroglial tumors
- Ependymal tumors
- Other neuroepithelial tumors
- Neuronal and mixed neuronal-glial tumors
- Tumors of pineal region
- Embryonal tumors
- Tumors of cranial and paraspinal nerves
- Tumors of meninges
- Mesenchymal tumors
- Primary melanocytic lesions
- Tumors of haematopoietic system
- Germ cell tumors
- Tumor of sellar region

# Grading of Gliomas

**TABLE 1.** Comparison of the St. Anne–Mayo Grading Scheme With the Adaptation of the WHO

WHO Grade	WHO Designation	St. Anne–Mayo	
		Designation	Discriminating Histological Criteria
I	Pilocytic astrocytoma		
II	Diffuse astrocytoma	Astrocytoma grade 2	1 criterion: usually nuclear atypia
III	Anaplastic astrocytoma	Astrocytoma grade 3	2 criteria: usually nuclear atypia and mitoses
IV	Glioblastoma	Astrocytoma grade 4	3 criteria: nuclear atypia, mitoses, MVP and/or necrosis

WHO, World Health Organization; MVP, microvascular proliferation.

**TABLE 2.** Parameters Used for the Diagnosis of Anaplastic Astrocytoma Over Time

	WHO 1979	WHO 1993	WHO 2000/2007
Cellularity	+	+	(+)
Cellular pleomorphism	+	+	
Nuclear pleomorphism			+
Loss of cellular differentiation	+		
Presence of giant cells	+		
Mitoses	+	+	+
Microvascular proliferation	+	–	–
Necrosis	+	–	–

+, present or high; –, absent or low.

WHO, World Health Organization Classification System.

# The 2007 WHO Classification of Tumours of the Central Nervous System

## TUMOURS OF NEUROEPITHELIAL TISSUE

### Astrocytic tumours

Pilocytic astrocytoma	9421/1 <sup>1</sup>
Pilomyxoid astrocytoma	9425/3*
Subependymal giant cell astrocytoma	9384/1
Pleomorphic xanthoastrocytoma	9424/3
Diffuse astrocytoma	9400/3
Fibrillary astrocytoma	9420/3
Gemistocytic astrocytoma	9411/3
Protoplasmic astrocytoma	9410/3
Anaplastic astrocytoma	9401/3
Glioblastoma	9440/3
Giant cell glioblastoma	9441/3
Gliosarcoma	9442/3
Gliomatosis cerebri	9381/3

## Neuronal and mixed neuronal-glial tumours

Dysplastic gangliocytoma of cerebellum (Lhermitte-Duclos)	9493/0
Desmoplastic infantile astrocytoma/ ganglioglioma	9412/1
Dysembryoplastic neuroepithelial tumour	9413/0
Gangliocytoma	9492/0
Ganglioglioma	9505/1
Anaplastic ganglioglioma	9505/3
Central neurocytoma	9506/1
Extraventricular neurocytoma	9506/1*
Cerebellar liponeurocytoma	9506/1*
Papillary glioneuronal tumour	9509/1*
Rosette-forming glioneuronal tumour of the fourth ventricle	9509/1*
Paraganglioma	8680/1

# The 2007 WHO Classification of Tumours of the Central Nervous System

## Oligodendroglial tumours

Oligodendroglioma	9450/3
Anaplastic oligodendroglioma	9451/3

## Oligoastrocytic tumours

Oligoastrocytoma	9382/3
Anaplastic oligoastrocytoma	9382/3

## Ependymal tumours

Subependymoma	9383/1
Myxopapillary ependymoma	9394/1
Ependymoma	9391/3
Cellular	9391/3
Papillary	9393/3
Clear cell	9391/3
Tancytic	9391/3
Anaplastic ependymoma	9392/3

## Choroid plexus tumours

Choroid plexus papilloma	9390/0
Atypical choroid plexus papilloma	9390/1*
Choroid plexus carcinoma	9390/3

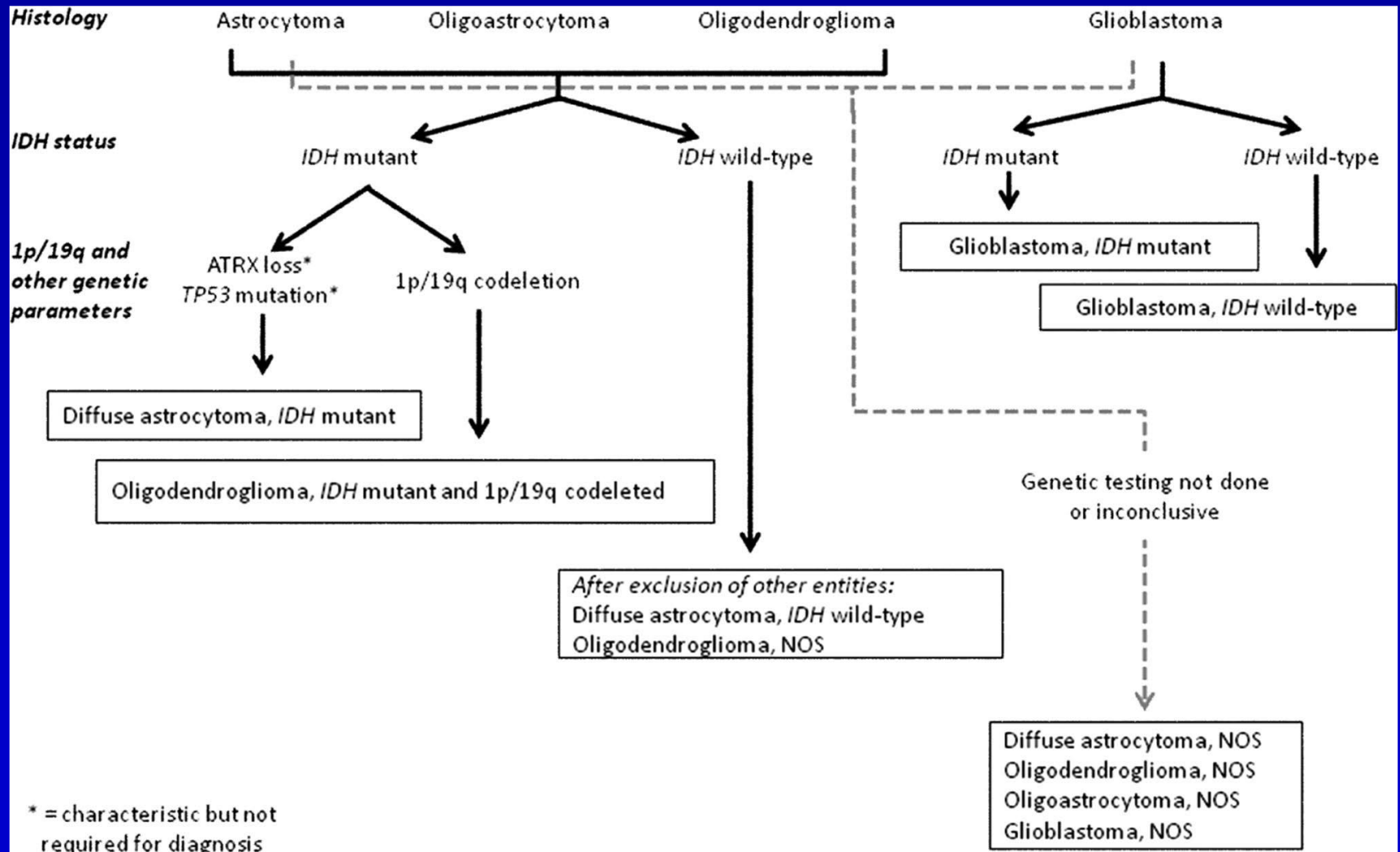
## Tumours of the pineal region

Pineocytoma	9361/1
Pineal parenchymal tumour of intermediate differentiation	9362/3
Pineoblastoma	9362/3
Papillary tumour of the pineal region	9395/3*

## Embryonal tumours

Medulloblastoma	9470/3
Desmoplastic/nodular medulloblastoma	9471/3
Medulloblastoma with extensive nodularity	9471/3*
Anaplastic medulloblastoma	9474/3*
Large cell medulloblastoma	9474/3
CNS primitive neuroectodermal tumour	9473/3
CNS Neuroblastoma	9500/3
CNS Ganglioneuroblastoma	9490/3
Medulloepithelioma	9501/3
Ependymblastoma	9392/3
Atypical teratoid / rhabdoid tumour	9508/3

# The 2016 World Health Organization Classification of Tumors of the Central Nervous System: a summary





# The 2021 WHO Classification of Tumors of the Central Nervous System

Gliomas, glioneuronal tumors, and neuronal tumors

Adult-type diffuse gliomas

Astrocytoma, IDH-mutant

Oligodendroglioma, IDH-mutant, and 1p/19q-codeleted

Glioblastoma, IDH-wildtype

Pediatric-type diffuse low-grade gliomas

Diffuse astrocytoma, *MYB*- or *MYBL1*-altered

Angiocentric glioma

Polymorphous low-grade neuroepithelial tumor of the young

Diffuse low-grade glioma, MAPK pathway-altered

Pediatric-type diffuse high-grade gliomas

Diffuse midline glioma, H3 K27-altered

Diffuse hemispheric glioma, H3 G34-mutant

Diffuse pediatric-type high-grade glioma, H3-wildtype and IDH-wildtype

Infant-type hemispheric glioma

Circumscribed astrocytic gliomas

Pilocytic astrocytoma

High-grade astrocytoma with piloid features

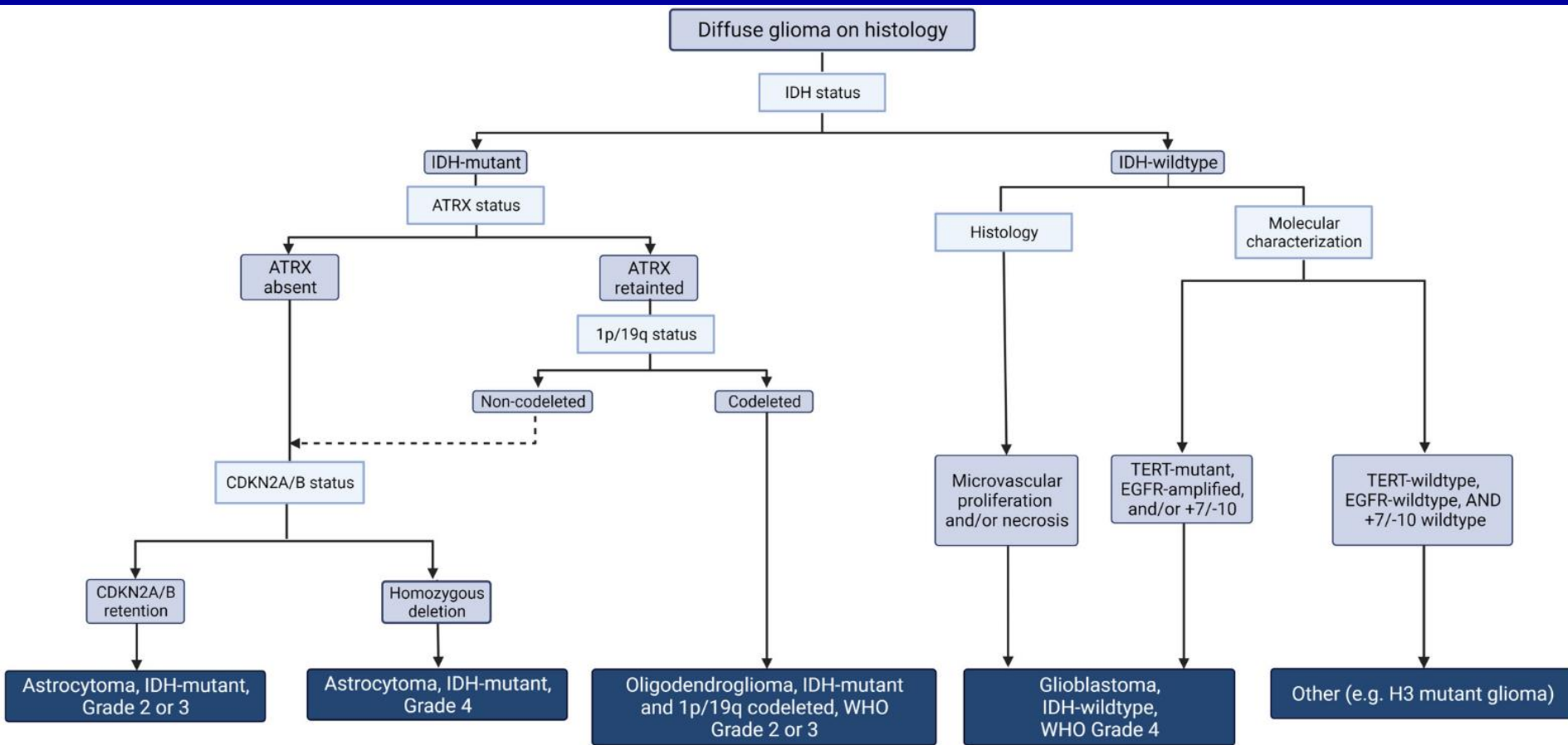
Pleomorphic xanthoastrocytoma

Subependymal giant cell astrocytoma

Chordoid glioma

Astroblastoma, *MN1*-altered

# The 2021 WHO Classification of Tumors of the Central Nervous System



NOS (not otherwise specified): used when genetic testing is not done or is inconclusive Oligodendroglioma is diagnosed based on histology of infiltrating glioma together with IDH-mutation AND 1p/19q co-deletion.

# Key Diagnostic Genes, Molecules, Pathways, and/or Combinations in Major Primary CNS Tumors

Tumor Type	Genes/Molecular Profiles Characteristically Altered <sup>a</sup>
Astrocytoma, IDH-mutant	<i>IDH1, IDH2, ATRX, TP53, CDKN2A/B</i>
Oligodendroglioma, IDH-mutant, and 1p/19q-codeleted	<i>IDH1, IDH2, 1p/19q, TERT promoter, CIC, FUBP1, NOTCH1</i>
Glioblastoma, IDH-wildtype	IDH-wildtype, <i>TERT promoter, chromosomes 7/10, EGFR</i>
Diffuse astrocytoma, <i>MYB</i> - or <i>MYBL1</i> -altered	<i>MYB, MYBL1</i>
Angiocentric glioma	<i>MYB</i>
Polymorphous low-grade neuroepithelial tumor of the young	<i>BRAF, FGFR family</i>
Diffuse low-grade glioma, MAPK pathway-altered	<i>FGFR1, BRAF</i>
Diffuse midline glioma, H3 K27-altered	H3 K27, <i>TP53, ACVR1, PDGFRA, EGFR, EZHIP</i>
Diffuse hemispheric glioma, H3 G34-mutant	H3 G34, <i>TP53, ATRX</i>

# Low grade glioma

- Gliomas - astrocytes, oligodendrocytes, and ependymal cells
- Headache, seizure, neurological deficits
- Grading characteristics: atypia, mitoses, endothelial proliferation, and necrosis
- Adult gliomas approximately 5.4 cases/100,000 population (low grade 10-20 %; 0.8/100,000)
- Children glioma, 2.4 cases/100,000 population (0.6 case/100,000)

# Low grade gliomas

- \* Surgical resection

- \* Observation

- \* Radiotherapy

- \* Medical Care

  - Seizures - phenytoin (Dilantin) or carbamazepine (Tegretol)

  - Increasing intracranial pressure, peritumor edema - dexamethasone (Decadron, 2-4 mg every 6 hours)

  - H2 blocker

# Low grade glioma

- 5-year survival rate - 65-80%;  
10-year survival rate - 20-45%
- Male predominance (55%-65%)
- median age - 35 years
- Seizure, headache, focal neurological deficits

# Malignant Gliomas in Adults

- \* Grade III: anaplastic astrocytoma, anaplastic oligodendroglioma, anaplastic oligoastrocytoma
- Grade IV: glioblastoma
- Primary glioblastoma:  $> 50$  y/o
- Secondary glioblastoma:  $< 45$  y/o
- \* Median survival:
  - 12 to 15 months - glioblastomas
  - 2 to 5 years - anaplastic gliomas

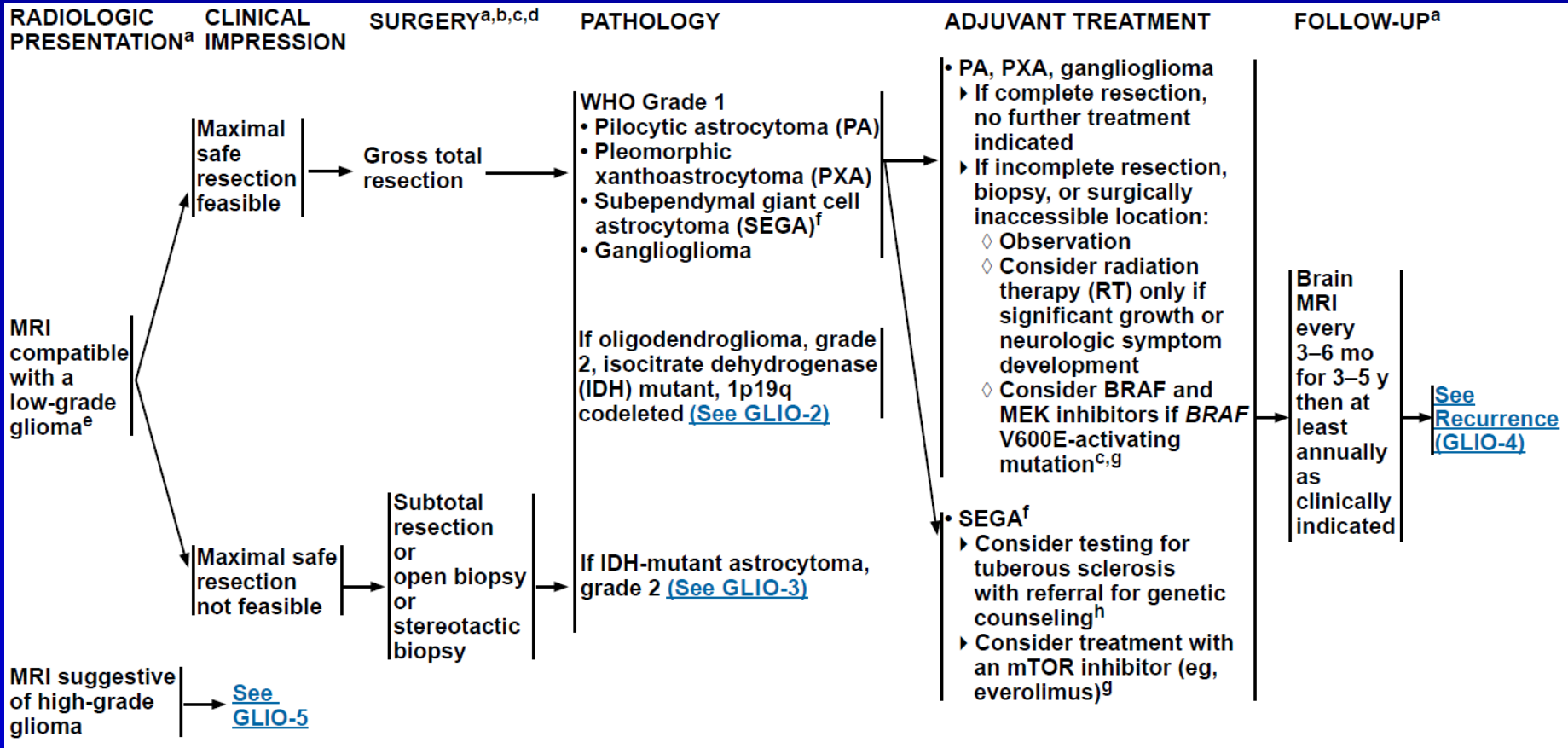
# Clinical presentations of Malignant gliomas

- Headaches (30-50%) -  
increased intracranial pressure
- Seizures (30-60%) -  
simple partial, complex partial, or generalized
- Focal neurologic deficits (40-60%) -  
cognitive problems  
neurological deficits resulting from radiation necrosis  
hydrocephalus  
cranial neuropathies and polyradiculopathies from  
leptomeningeal spread
- Mental status changes (20-40%) -  
earlier stage with subtle personality changes



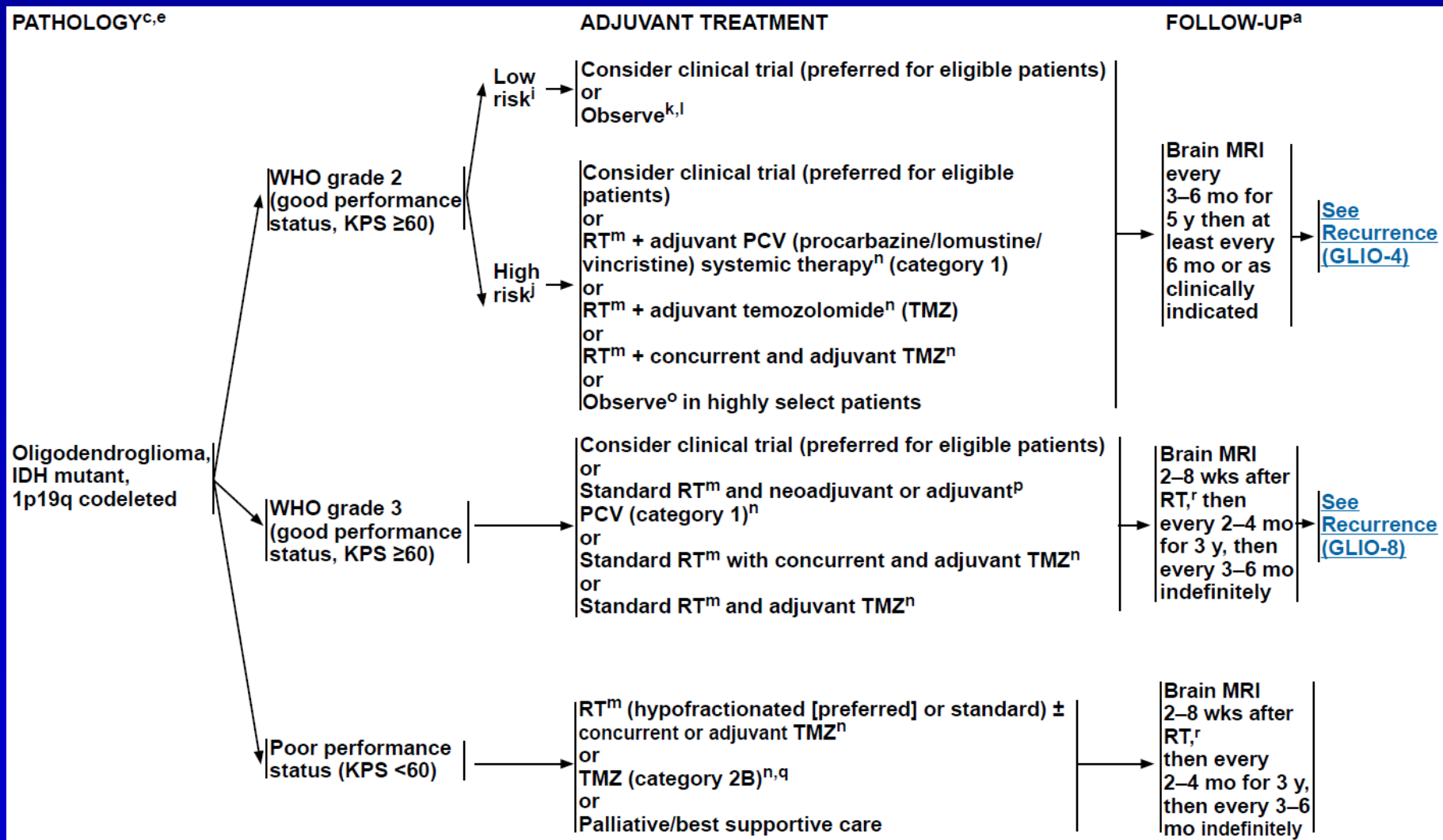
# NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2022

## Adult Glioma: WHO Grade 1



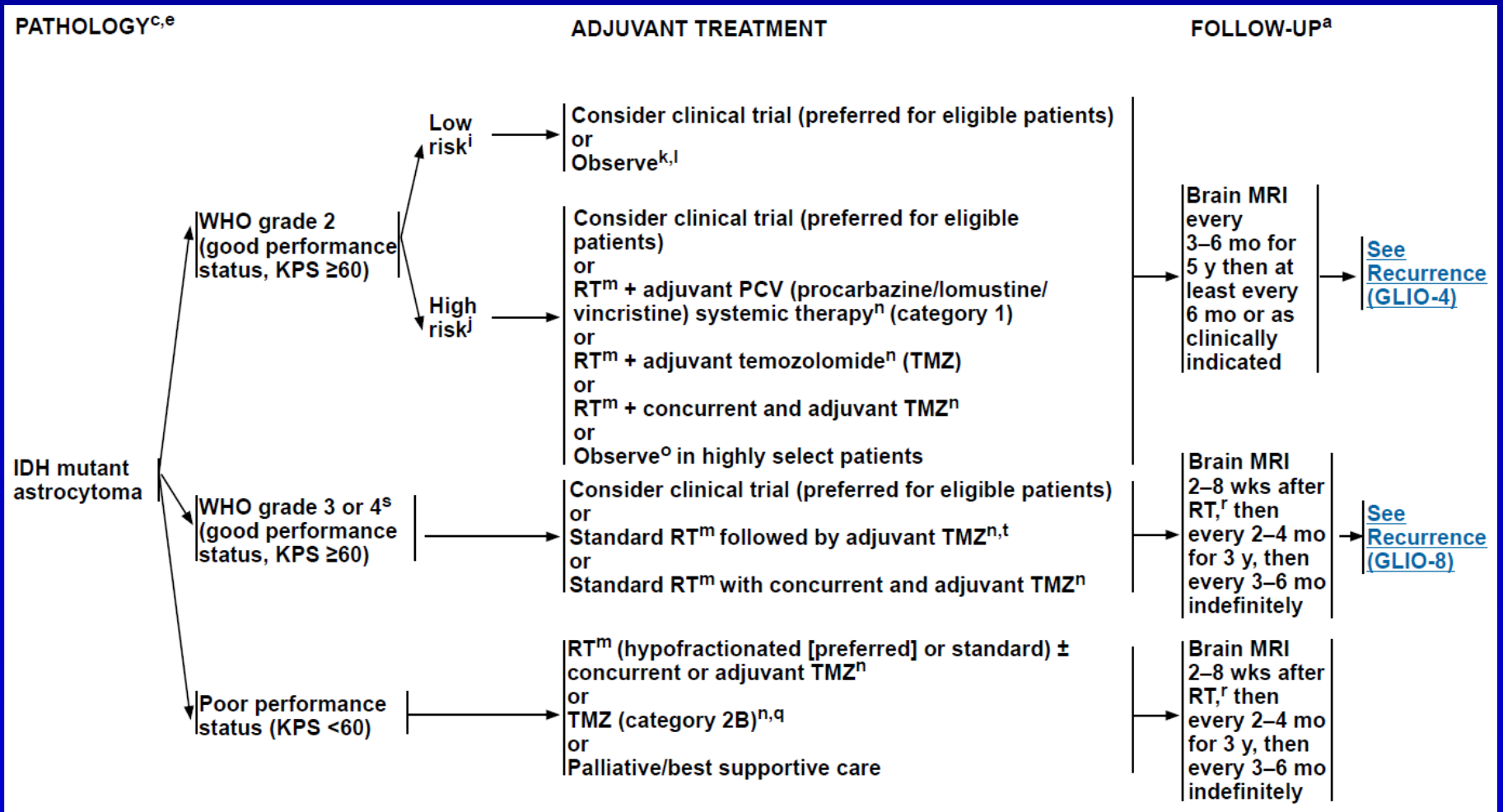
# NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2022

## Adult Glioma: Oligodendroglioma (IDH mutant, 1p19q codeleted)



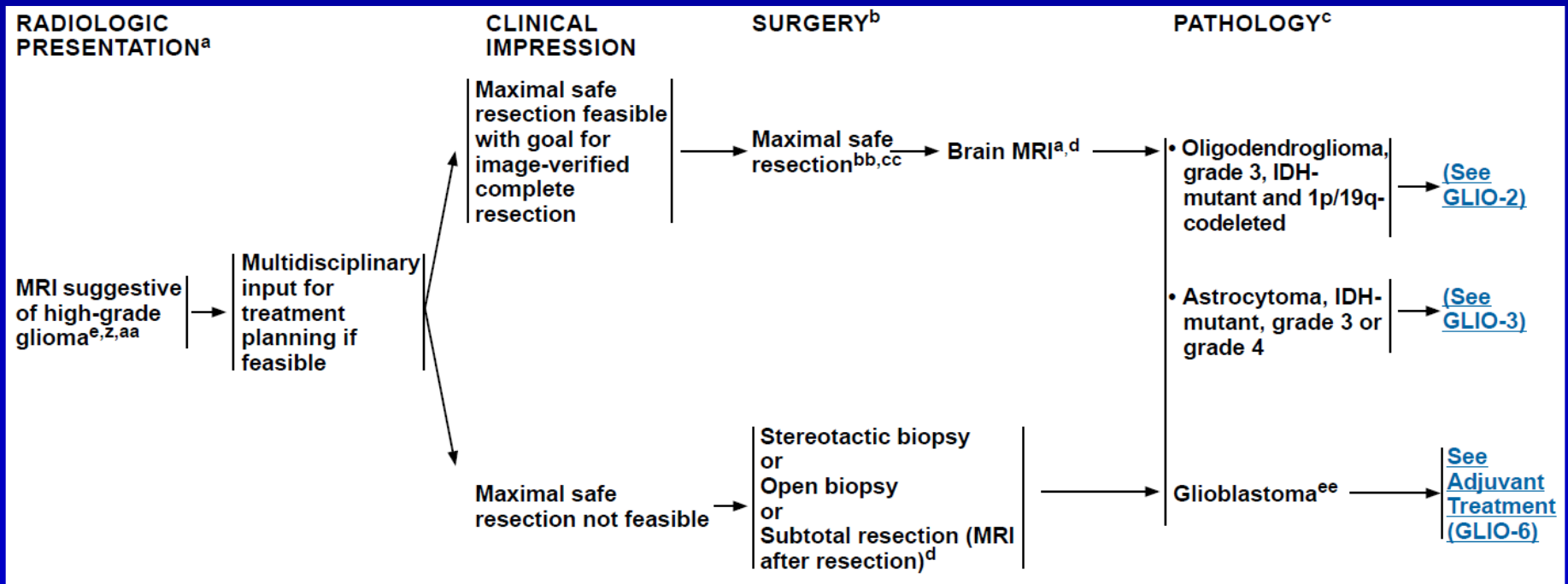
# NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2022

## Adult Glioma: IDH-mutant Astrocytoma



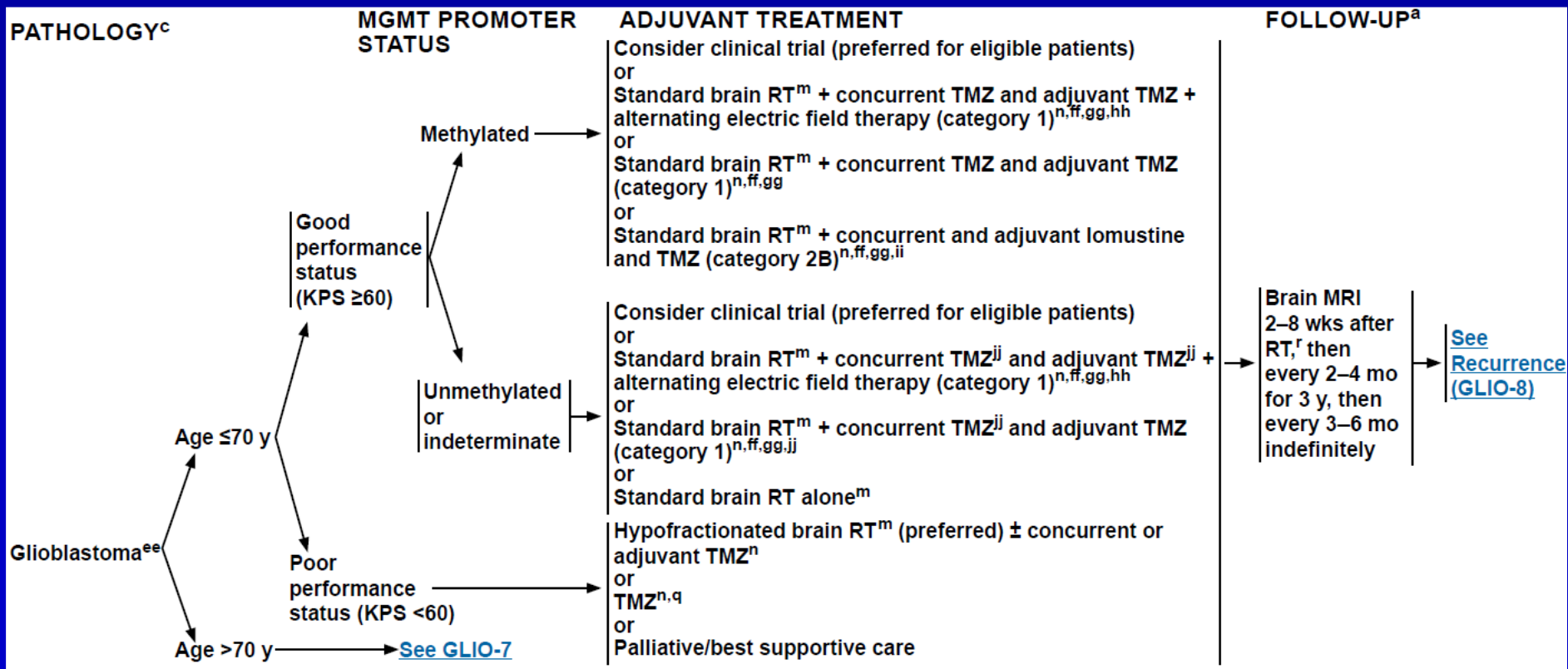
# NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2022

## Adult Glioma: High-Grade



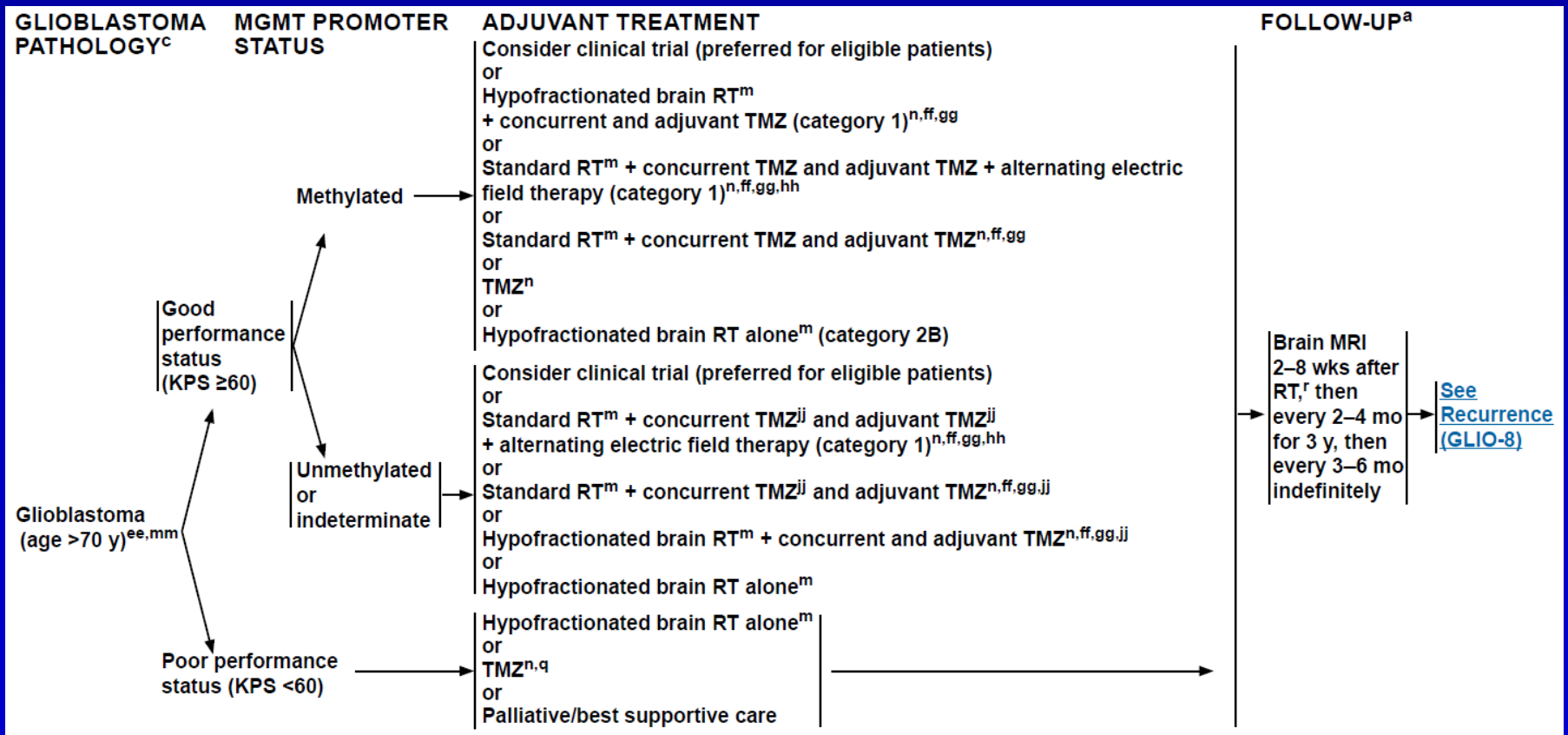
# NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2022

## Adult Glioma: Glioblastoma



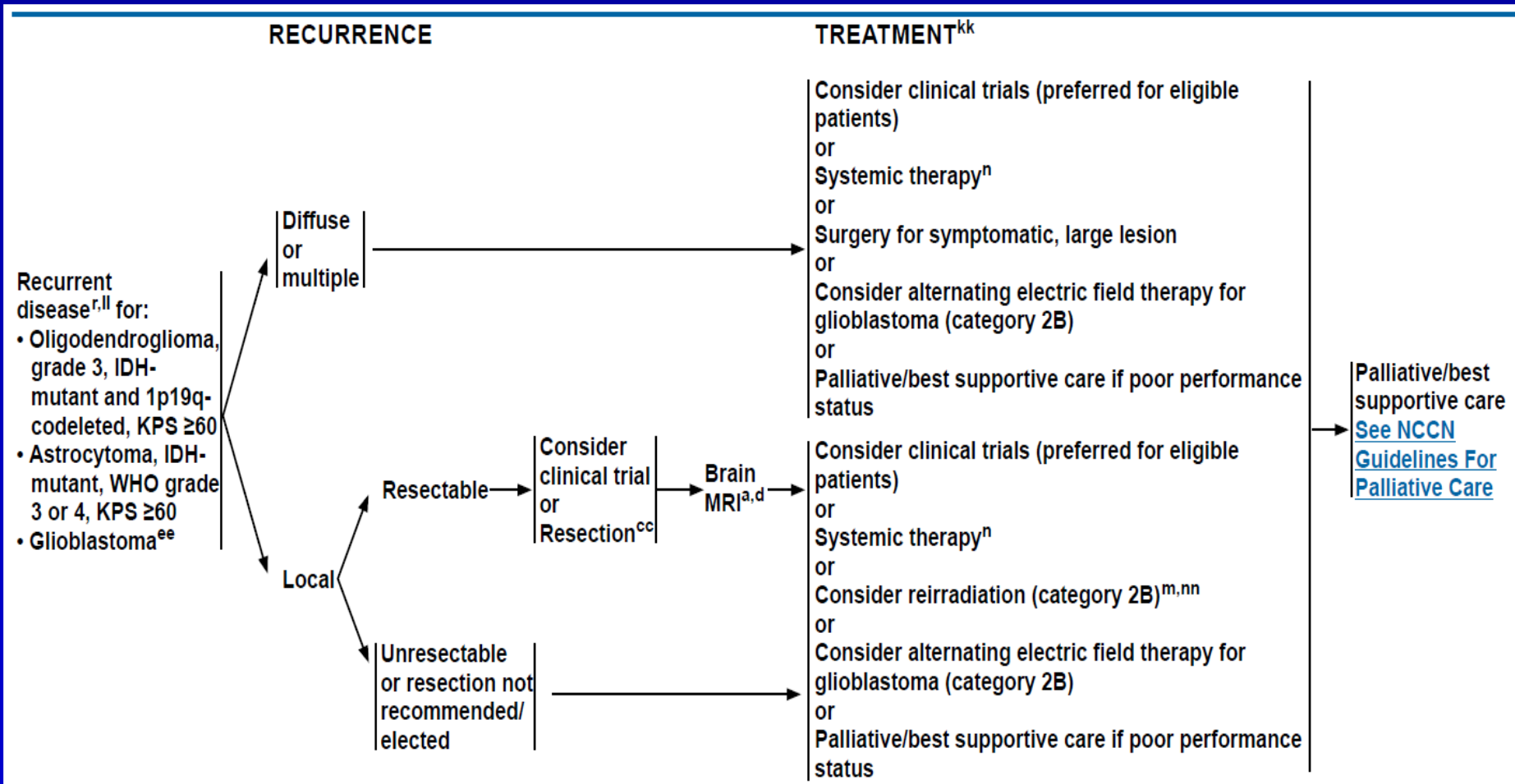
# NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2022

## Adult Glioma: Glioblastoma



# NCCN Guidelines Version 2.2022

## Adult Glioma: High-Grade



# Increasing importance of chemotherapy

- \* Glioblastoma treated with **temozolomide**
  - ***MGMT*** promoter methylation (45% of the total)  
median survival of 21.7 months; 2-year survival rate of 46%
  - ***MGMT*** no methylation  
median survival of 12.7 months; 2-year survival rate of 13.8%
- \* Biodegradable polymers containing carmustine (Gliadel Wafers, MGI Pharma)
  - median survival from 11.6 months to 13.9 months ( $P = 0.03$ )



# Increasing importance of chemotherapy

- \* Codeletion of chromosomes **1p and 19q**
  - 61 to 89% of anaplastic oligodendrogliomas
  - 14 to 20% of anaplastic oligoastrocytomas
  - PCV — **procarbazine, lomustine (CCNU), and vincristine**
  - response rates of 100%; 3 to 31% among no deletion

Radiotherapy + PCV increased 10 to 12 months of tumor progression free, did not improve overall survival (median, 3.4 and 4.9 years)

# Brain metastasis

- 120,000-140,000 per year in USA
- 20% of cancer deaths annually
- Over 50% of brain tumor
- 15% present with neurologic symptoms before diagnosis
- 43-60% have an abnormal chest radiograph
- In 9%, the CNS is the only site of spread
- 10% of patients with no identifiable primary source

# Brain metastasis

- Lung 48%
- Breast 15%
- Melanoma 9%
- Lymphoma 1% (mainly non-Hodgkin)
- G-I system 3% (3% colon, 2% pancreatic, hepatoma)
- Genitourinary system 11% (21% kidney, 46% testes, 5% cervix, 5% ovary)
- Osteosarcoma 10%
- Neuroblastoma 5%
- Head and neck tumors 6%

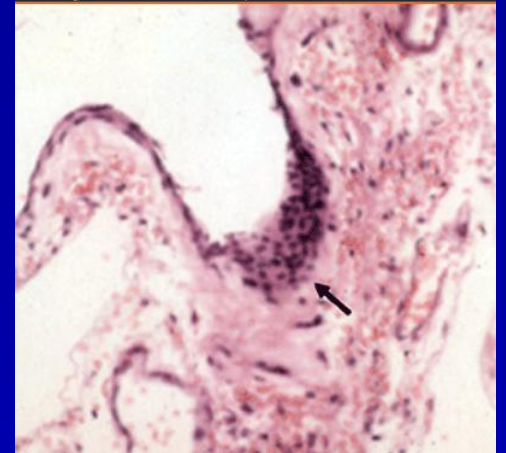
# Lung-originated brain metastasis

- Lung cancer patients, survive for more than 2 years, 80% will have brain metastases
- Brain metastases within 4 months
- Small cell carcinomas, 20% of all lung cancers, but 50% of brain metastases

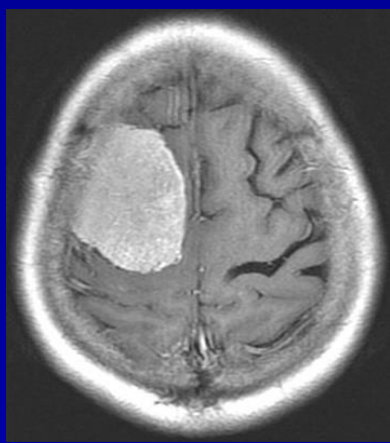
# Treatment of brain metastasis

- Surgical treatments
- Medical treatments - symptomatic and systematic treatments
- Radiation therapy – WBRT; multiplanar fractionated radiation; and stereotactic radiosurgery
- Chemotherapy depends on original tumor
- Integration therapy - multidiscipline approach
  - behavioral modification
  - nutritional counseling
  - alternative medicine (herbal)
  - physical and occupational therapy

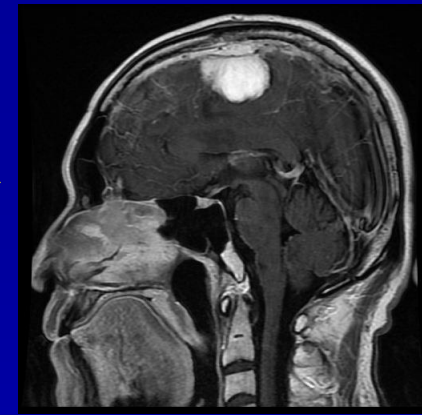
# Meningioma



- Arise from arachnoidal cap cells
- 20% of all primary intracranial neoplasms
- 5-year survival: 73-94%
- Usually grow slowly, may produce severe morbidity before causing death.
- Male-to-female : 1:1.4 to 1:2.8

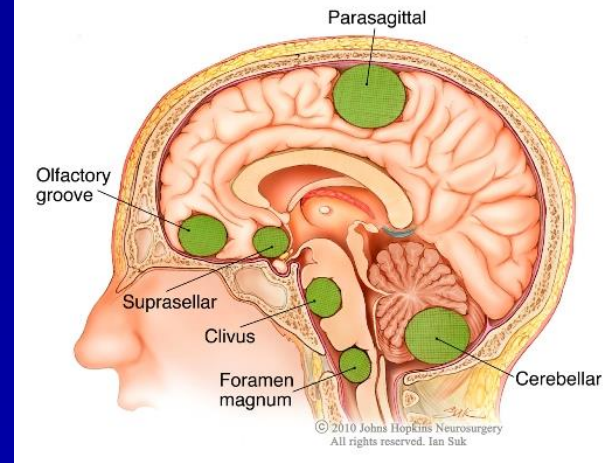
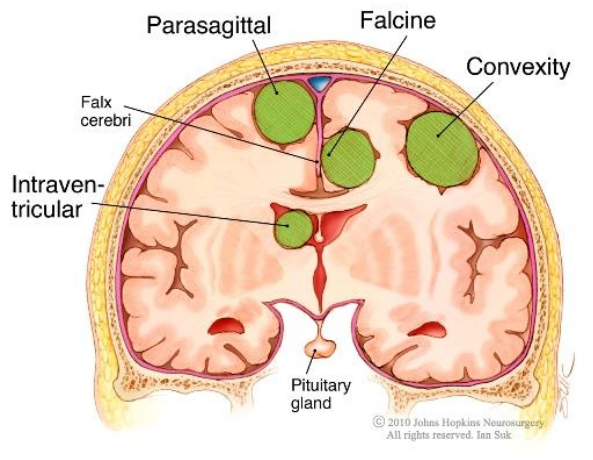


# Classification of meningioma



Location	Symptoms
Parasagittal	Monoparesis of the contralateral leg
Subfrontal	Change in mentation, apathy or disinhibited behavior, urinary incontinence
Olfactory groove	Anosmia with possible ipsilateral optic atrophy and contralateral papilledema (this triad termed Kennedy-Foster syndrome)
Cavernous sinus	Multiple cranial nerve deficits (II, III, IV, V, VI), leading to decreased vision and diplopia with associated facial numbness
Occipital lobe	Contralateral hemianopsia
Cerebellopontine angle	Decreased hearing with possible facial weakness and facial numbness

# Classification of meningioma



Location	Symptoms
Spinal cord	Localized spinal pain, Brown-Sequard (hemispinal cord) syndrome
Optic nerve	Exophthalmos, monocular loss of vision or blindness, ipsilateral dilated pupil that does not react to direct light stimulation but might contract on consensual light stimulation; often, monocular optic nerve swelling with optociliary shunt vessels
Sphenoid wing	Seizures; multiple cranial nerve palsies if the superior orbital fissure involved
Tentorial	May protrude within supratentorial and infratentorial compartments, producing symptoms by compressing specific structures within these 2 compartments
Foramen magnum	Paraparesis, sphincteric troubles, tongue atrophy associated with fasciculation



# Grading of meningioma

<b>WHO Grade</b>	<b>Histological Subtype</b>	<b>Histological Features</b>
I	Meningothelial fibroblastic transitional angiomatous microcystic secretory lymphoplasmacytic metaplastic psammomatous	Does not fulfill criteria for grade II or III
II (Atypical)	Chordoid Clear cell	4 or more mitotic cells per 10 hpf and/or 3 or more of the following: increased cellularity, small cells, necrosis, prominent nucleoli, sheeting, and/or brain invasion in an otherwise Grade I tumor
III (Anaplastic)	Papillary Rhabdoid	20 or more mitoses per 10 hpf and/or obviously malignant cytological characteristics such that tumor cell resembles carcinoma, sarcoma, or melanoma

# Treatment of meningioma

- Surgical principle
  - All involved or hyperostotic bone, free of dura rim
- Radiotherapy (adjuvant therapy)
  - incomplete resection
  - high-grade
  - recurrent
- Stereotactic radiosurgery
  - high risk of surgery
  - small (<3 cm in diameter)
  - residual
  - recurrent lesions
  - small meningiomas
  - skull base
  - cavernous sinus

# Spinal metastasis

- Common sites for cancer metastasis – lung, liver, spine
- Systemic cancer – 60-70% spinal metastasis
- Epidural and/or vertebral involvement - 94-98%
- Intradural extramedullary – 5-6%
- Intramedullary - 0.5-1%
- Thoracic - 70%, T4-T7
- Lumbar - 20%
- Cervical - 10%
- Multiple levels - 50%

# Spinal metastasis

- Lung - 31%
- Breast - 24%
- GI tract - 9%
- Prostate - 8%
- Lymphoma - 6%
- Melanoma - 4%
- Unknown - 2%
- Kidney - 1%
- Others including multiple myeloma - 13%

# Clinical presentations of spinal metastasis

- \* Median survival - 10 months
- \* Paralysis and/or bowel and bladder involvement
- \* Cord compression –  
preterminal event  
median survival 3 months
- \* Initial presentation
  - 90%, bone and/or back pain followed by radicular pain.
  - 50%, sensory and motor dysfunction
  - more than 50%, bowel and bladder dysfunctions
- \* 5-10% of patients initiated with cord compression

# Management of spinal metastasis

- No treatment has been proven to increase the life expectancy.
- Therapeutic goals - pain control and functional preservation
- Bone pain - bony destruction or pathologic fractures
- Local pain - stretching of the periosteum, respond to irradiation

# Management of spinal metastasis

- Axial pain - vertebral compression and/or collapse, mechanical instability
- Neuropathic pain - root irritation and/or meningeal irritation secondary to cancer infiltration
- Steroids and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) for bone pain

# Steroid for spinal metastasis

- \* Dexamethasone 10 mg then 4 mg every 6 hours
  - Least mineralocorticoid effects
  - Least likely to be associated with infection or cognitive dysfunction
  - Increase the risk of myopathy
- \* Adverse effects:
  - psychotic reaction (5%)
  - GI bleeding (<1%)
  - glucose intolerance (19%)
- \* **More than 3 weeks** - associated with complications
- \* Hypoalbuminemia increases the risks



# Steroid for spinal metastasis

- \* 70-80%, symptoms improve within 48 hours of treatment
- \* ~64%, alleviation of pain within 24-48 hours
- \* 57% improvement in motor function
- \* Most patients continued until radiotherapy is completed.

# Treatment of spinal metastasis

- Radiation therapy –
  - 67% pain control
  - 17% further deterioration of mobility or sphincter control
- Surgery –
  - 36% pain control
  - surgery alone is the least effective
  - 20-26% further deterioration of mobility or sphincter control

# Radiotherapy for spinal metastasis

- \* Radiosensitive tumors –
  - lymphoma, neuroblastoma, seminoma, myeloma
- \* Relative insensitivity of radiotherapy –
  - prostate carcinoma, lung and breast
- \* Resistant to radiotherapy –
  - tumors of the GI system, kidney, melanomas
- \* The common regimen is 30 Gy in 10 fractions
- \* Stereotactic radiosurgery

# Spinal cord tumors

- Epidural, intradural extramedullary, and intradural intramedullary
- **Primary spinal tumors - intradural**
- **Metastatic spinal tumors - extradural**
- Intramedullary neoplasms –
  - astrocytomas
  - ependymomas (60-70%)
  - hemangioblastomas
- Astrocytomas and ependymomas –
  - neurofibromatosis type 2, abnormal chromosome 22
- Hemangioblastomas –
  - 30% of patients with von Hippel-Lindau syndrome, abnormal chromosome 3

# Treatment of spinal cord tumors

- \*Surgical therapy
- \*Standard fractionated radiation is used for astrocytomas of residual and recurrent neoplasm.
- \*Stereotactic spinal radiosurgery may be helpful for treating these lesions.
- \*Chemotherapeutic regimens have limited success.

# Further study

- Pituitary adenoma
- Craniopharyngioma
- Germ cell tumor
- Medulloblastoma

# References

- \* Youmans Neurological Surgery, 6th Edition
- \* Brain Tumors An encyclopedic Approach, 3rd Edition
- \* National Comprehensive Cancer Network  
<http://www.nccn.org/index.asp>
- \* American Joint Committee on Cancer  
<http://www.cancerstaging.org/>
- \* Acta Neuropathol (2007) 114:97–109
- \* Neuro Oncol. 2021 Aug 2;23(8):1231-1251.
- \* Presse Med. 2018 Nov-Dec;47(11-12 Pt 2):e187-e200.
- \* NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN Guidelines®)
- \* 國家衛生研究院－腦瘤之診斷與治療共識

1. 轉移性脊椎腫瘤最常在何處發生？

a. 頸椎

b. 胸椎

c. 腰椎

d. 薦椎



2. 最容易轉移到腦的腫瘤為下列何者？

a. 肝癌

b. 大腸癌

c. 淋巴癌

d. 肺癌

3. Glioblastoma的治療應包括下列何者?

a. Radiotherapy

b. Surgical excision

c. Chemotherapy with temozolamide

d. 以上皆是

4. Meningioma源自於何種細胞?
- a. arachnoidal cap cell
  - b. endothelial cell of dura matter
  - c. epithelial cell of dura mater
  - d. fibroblast cell of leptomeninges