

# Brain and Spine Tumor Center

Northwestern Medicine Cancer Center Warrenville  
Northwestern Medicine Cancer Center Delnor



**Northwestern Cancer Center Warrenville**

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[cadencehealth.org/braintumor](http://cadencehealth.org/braintumor)





# Specialized. Focused. Compassionate.

## **A dedicated team**

If you or a loved one is faced with a brain or spine tumor, count on the specialists at the Brain and Spine Tumor Center. The team exclusively focuses on primary and metastatic central nervous system tumors, offering specialized care, from diagnosis through treatment and rehabilitation. At Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital and Northwestern Medicine Delnor Hospital, you and your family have access to a compassionate, multidisciplinary team that collaborates on a care plan just for you.

A team approach to  
specialized care

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Your care team may include:

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Neuro-oncologist	Neuroradiologist
Radiation oncologist	Advanced practice nurses
Neurosurgeon	Geneticist
Neurotologist	Rehabilitation therapist
Neuropsychologist	Nurse navigator
Pathologist	Palliative medicine physician
Nutritionist	
Social worker	

### **Multidisciplinary approach**

The Brain and Spine Tumor Center provides a multidisciplinary team approach to care. Members of your care team review your case together and ensure a coordinated treatment plan. Caregivers are encouraged to attend your visits.

For patient convenience, we offer Brain Tumor Clinic appointments at both the Northwestern Medicine Cancer Center Warrenville and Northwestern Cancer Center Delnor. Patients with specific needs may arrange to combine some meetings with multiple doctors and other care-team members. This is limited to certain days at certain locations. Ask your nurse navigator about the options appropriate for you.

# A single resource for exceptional care

The Brain and Spine Tumor Center makes it possible for you to receive coordinated care throughout your treatment. Board-certified neuro-oncologists, neurosurgeons, radiation oncologists, as well as palliative medicine physicians and other care team members, consult on your case and make unified recommendations. That team meets regularly to review your case and make any necessary adjustments to your treatment plan as your care progresses.

In addition, you'll be assigned a nurse navigator, a one-stop resource who will manage your medical records and coordinate your care. The nurse navigator serves as your guide for education and support throughout your treatment.

### **Access to clinical trials**

Clinical trials study new ways to prevent, diagnose and treat brain tumors. At Central DuPage Hospital (CDH) and Delnor Hospital, you have access to a range of trials. Your doctor will discuss the possibility of your participation in clinical studies that are right for you.



## Cutting-edge treatment options

The Northwestern Medicine Cancer Center Warrenton and Northwestern Medicine Cancer Center Delnor have one of the most comprehensive brain tumor programs in Illinois. We continue to bring the latest advances to the patients we treat, offering the following state-of-the-art technologies:

Proton therapy

Gamma Knife®

Intraoperative MRI (iMRI)

Optune (NovoTTF) therapy

RapidArc®

TomoTherapy®

\*The Northwestern Medicine Chicago Proton Center (Center) is a joint venture of Northwestern Medicine and Radiation Oncology Consultants, Ltd. Both organizations are dedicated to providing proton therapy in Illinois. The physicians that practice at the Center are neither agents nor employees of Northwestern Medicine. They have chosen this facility as the place they wish to care for and treat their private patients.

### **Proton therapy**

Proton therapy is offered at the Northwestern Medicine Chicago Proton Center in Warrenville, the first and only facility of its kind in Illinois. Proton therapy uses protons instead of traditional photons to precisely target brain tumors, resulting in less damage to surrounding healthy tissue. This treatment has been particularly successful in treating pediatric patients as well as patients with tumors near critical structures such as the brain and spine.

### **Gamma Knife®: The gold standard approach**

Gamma Knife is considered the gold standard of stereotactic radiosurgery systems (SRS) approaches. It has the longest track record of success in treating lesions that require a single session of high-dose radiation.

Gamma Knife, sometimes referred to as “surgery without the knife,” is the most advanced SRS for treating a wide range of brain tumors and other brain disorders.

In a single treatment session, 192 sources of gamma radiation focus precisely on the targeted area. The exposure is brief, and only the tissue being treated receives a significant dose of radiation.

### **Intraoperative MRI**

CDH is the only hospital in Illinois to offer full-field intraoperative MRI (i-MRI), a state-of-the-art surgical technology that provides high-quality, detailed imaging viewable during surgery.

By integrating this technology with advanced surgical techniques, your neurosurgeon can conduct scans during surgery to more safely and precisely remove brain tumors, especially around sensitive areas of the brain.





## Additional resources

### **Coping and healing**

The Brain and Spine Tumor Center includes a care team devoted to helping you manage your diagnosis and move toward emotional healing. CDH and Delnor bring you a wide range of support resources, including a nutritionist, social worker and financial counselor, who are available to help you throughout your journey.

Additionally, LivingWell Cancer Resource Center, part of Northwestern Medicine, provides more than 60 free programs and services to support you and your family throughout your cancer treatment. These services range from psychosocial support, such as counseling, to alternative healing therapies like yoga and massage.

To learn more, visit [livingwellcrc.org](http://livingwellcrc.org).



### **Second opinions**

If you or your family member is seeking a second opinion, the Brain and Spine Tumor Center is the place to turn. Our nurse navigator can help with medical record retrieval and ensure your care is coordinated through your referring physician.

If you have questions or would like more information, please call the nurse navigator at 630.352.5450. TTY for the hearing impaired 630.933.4833.

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