

CHEMOTHERAPY

Chemotherapy uses drugs to kill or alter cancer cells. It is not an effective initial treatment for low-grade brain tumours, mostly because standard drugs have a hard time passing into the brain because of how the brain protects itself (the blood-brain barrier). In addition, not all types of brain tumours respond to chemotherapy. In general, chemotherapy for brain tumours is usually administered following surgery or radiation therapy.

Chemotherapy is usually outpatient based and lasts over a year but is quite well tolerated and children can usually continue to attend school.

Types of chemotherapy drugs used for brain tumours are: