



“EXPLORING CONTEMPORARY METHODS FOR BRAIN TUMOR DETECTION: A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW.”

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ABSTRACT: The field of emergence technologies of Brain Tumor Detection Devices are aiming at exploring the landscape of brain tumor, focusing disorders related to brain, technological advancement, challenges, and future potentials. Brain tumors possess a significant health challenge, necessitating accurate and timely detection for effective treatment. These devices thrive to work on various effective modalities, integrated devices such as MRI, CT scans, and PET scans to provide the comprehensive analysis and visualizations of brain structures. However, recently advancements in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and wearing technologies has revolutionized the medical diagnostics field. These techniques aim to provide insight into the evolving landscape of brain tumor, offering a comprehensive overview for researching, clinicians, and industry professionals involved in the developing and implementing of advanced diagnostic technologies in neuro-oncology. The implementing of the working and results of Brain Tumor Detection Device have the potential to revolutionize the field of neuroimaging, enabling early detection of tumors spreading, the precise locations of tumors in the body, and various personalized plans sets up for the patients to deal with the disorders related to brain tumors.

Keywords: Brain Tumor, Devices, Techniques, Cancer, Glioma, Benign, Malignant, MRI, CT-Scan, PET, Surgery, Chemotherapy, Biopsy, Radiation Therapy, Targeted Therapy

1. INTRODUCTION

Cancers are characterized by the uncontrolled and abnormal proliferation and division of cells within the body. When this uncontrolled cell growth forms a mass within the brain tissues, it is termed as brain tumor. Although brain tumors are relatively rare, they are among the most deadly forms of cancer. A brain tumor, characterized by the uncontrolled growing of brain tissues inside the skull is a life-threatening condition. These tumors can be classified as either benign or malignant, with malignant tumors growing rapidly and spreading into the surrounding brain tissue, while benign tumors typically exhibit slower growth. Nevertheless, even benign tumors can pose a danger as they can impact the neighboring brain tissues. Stats indicate that approximately 70% of brain tumors are benign, while the remaining 30% are malignant.[1]

To date, the medical community has identified over 120 distinct types of brain tumors, with notable examples such as Meningiomas, Gliomas, and Pituitary tumors.[2] According to data from the International Associations of Cancer Registries (IACR), India witnesses over 28,000 individuals diagnosed with brain tumors annually, with a staggering 24,000+ losing their life to these diseases.[3]

2. WHAT IS BRAIN TUMOR?

A brain tumor represents an abnormal mass of cells that develops within the brain or the skull. It can take the form of either a benign, noncancerous growth or a malignant, cancerous one. In these cases of primary brain cancer, which originates from brain tissue, it is unusual for the cancer to spread to distant areas of the body. However, regardless of whether it is benign or malignant, all brain tumors are considered serious because, over time, a growing tumor can exert pressure and cause damage to nearby brain structures. Brain tumors are divided into two main categories: 1. Primary and 2. Secondary

Primary tumors originate within the brain tissues, while secondary tumors result from the spread of cancer cells from another part of the body to the brain. Primary tumors are further classified based on their point of origin within the brain:

2.1 Gliomas, the primary brain tumors finds most commonly, initiating in the brain's supportive glial tissue. These tumors include several subtypes, and they're aggression and treatment outcomes can differ. Glioblastoma multiforms, for instances, are higher grades, fast-growing tumors that can originate from a lower grade glioma.

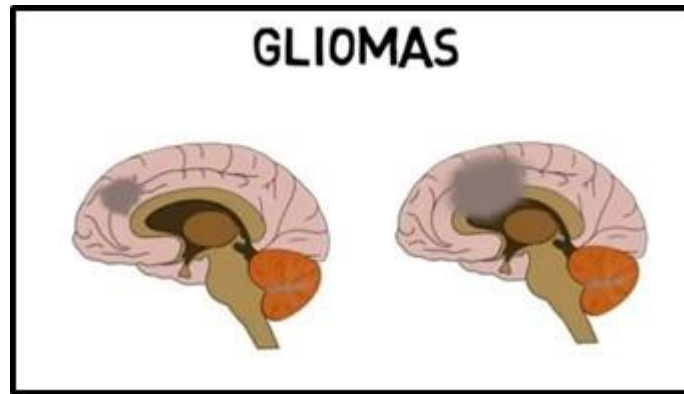


Figure 1: Glioma tumor in brain

2.2 Medulloblastoma, predominantly saw in children, derives from cell that are in their early embryonic stage.

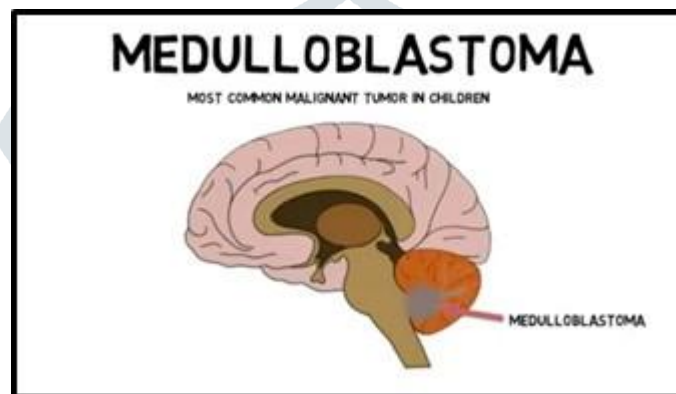


Figure 2: Medulloblastoma tumor in brain

2.3 Meningiomas, which origins from cells in the membranes that encase the brain and spinal cord, are usually noncancerous but can exhibit recurrences after treatments.

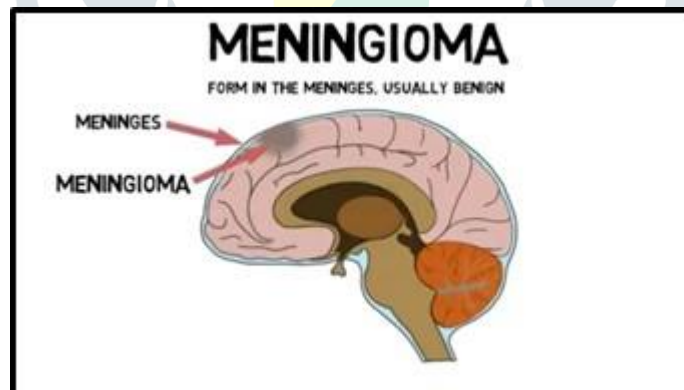


Figure 3: Meningioma tumor in brain

Secondary brain tumors typically originates from the lungs and breasts. Although cancers like melanoma, renal cancer, and lymphoma can also metastasize to the brain. This secondary tumors retains the same cellular characteristics as the primary cancer. Such as metastatic lung cancer when lung cancer spread to the brain. It's to note that secondary brain tumors are much more prevalence than primary brain tumors. Brain tumor can be found across all age groups, but their highest incidence occurs in adults aged 40 to 70 and children between 3 and 12 years old. The connection between the use of cellular phones and the development of brain tumors, especially in children, has sparked ongoing discussion. This issue remains unresolved, and additional researches is necessary.

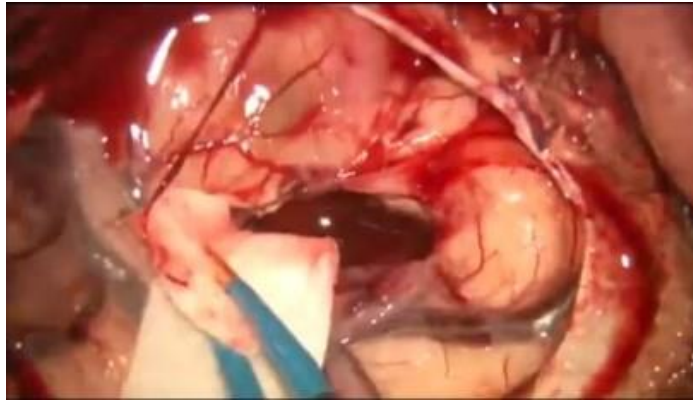


Figure 4: Sectioning of Brain Tumor



Figure 5: Laser Treatment on Brain Tumor

3. SYMPTOMS OF A BRAIN TUMOR

Headaches associated with brain tumors often exhibit a pattern of being more severe upon waking and gradually improves throughout the day. Additional symptoms may also be presents such as vomiting and nausea, new onset of seizures, weakness involving one's side of the body, such as an arm and leg on the same side, trouble taking or change in speech, loss of coordinations, changes in vision or abnormal eye movements, memory or personality changes, ringing and hearing loss in one ear.

4. PREVENTING A BRAIN TUMOR

Primary brain tumors cannot be definitively prevented at this time. Yet, as we gain more insights into the factors contributes to their development, therid hope for future developments of preventive strategies. Researches are actively exploring genetic hereditary influences, along with possible connections to exposure to certain chemicals and viruses.

Some secondary brain tumors, which had their origins in other organs, can be prevented through proactive measures. For examples, the avoidances of tobacco products reduces the risk of lung cancers, leading to a lower probability of lung cancer cells migrating to the brain.

5. TREATMENT OF A BRAIN TUMOR

The treatment approach for brain tumor are determined by factors such as the tumors size, location, and type, as well as the patients age and general health. The primary treatment options emcompass surgery, radiation therapy and chemotherapy. Often, combination of treatments,such as surgery combined with radiation therapy, is utilized. Prior to commencing treatment, patients may receive corticosteroid to reduce brain tissue swelling, and anticonvulsant medications may be administered to prevent or manage tumor-related seizures.

Surgery is often the treatment of choice for primary brain tumors when it's a option. In some cases, surgical removal of a tumor may not be feasible, or surgery could pose excessive risks. One example is when the tumor is closely situated around or encircle vital normal tissues. Attempting surgery in such cases could potentially result in significant disability for the patient. Radiation therapy, employing high intensity x-rays to eliminate cancer cells, is frequently administered after surgery. Chemotherapy employs pharmaceutical agents to halt the growth of cancer cells and can be delivered orally, via injection into vein or muscle, or through direct application to a specific part of body. Typically, chemotherapy is not as potent in addressing Gliomas and Meningiomas as surgery or radiation. However, it plays a crucial role in the management of other types of brain tumors, including Lymphomas and Medulloblastomas.[4]

6. BRAIN TUMOR DETECTION DEVICES AND TECHNIQUES

Brain tumors are typically detected following the onset of symptoms, and they are commonly initially identified by either an inters, a physician specializing in adult healthcare, or a neurologist, a medical professional focusing on issues related to the brain and central nervous system (CNS).

6.1 Surgery: Surgery involves the surgical removal of the brain tumor along with a margin of healthy tissues surrounding it. Brain surgery typically involves a craniotomy, a surgical procedure where a portion of the skull is removed to access the brain. Recent advancements in brain tumor surgery have revolutionized the field, incorporating techniques such as:

1. Cortical Mapping 2. Enhanced Imaging Devices(machines) and 3. Fluorescent Dyes.[5]

6.1.1 Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy (LITT): After a biopsy confirms the tumor's presence, a neurosurgeon inserts a catheter equipped with a rotating laser, which is deployed to heat and eliminate the tumor region around the catheter tip. The procedure is conducted under the guidance of intraoperative magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), providing real time images of the area being heated. This precise imaging allows the neurosurgeon to meticulously control and restrict the impact of LITT on the surrounding tumor while safeguarding healthy brain tissue from damage.[6]

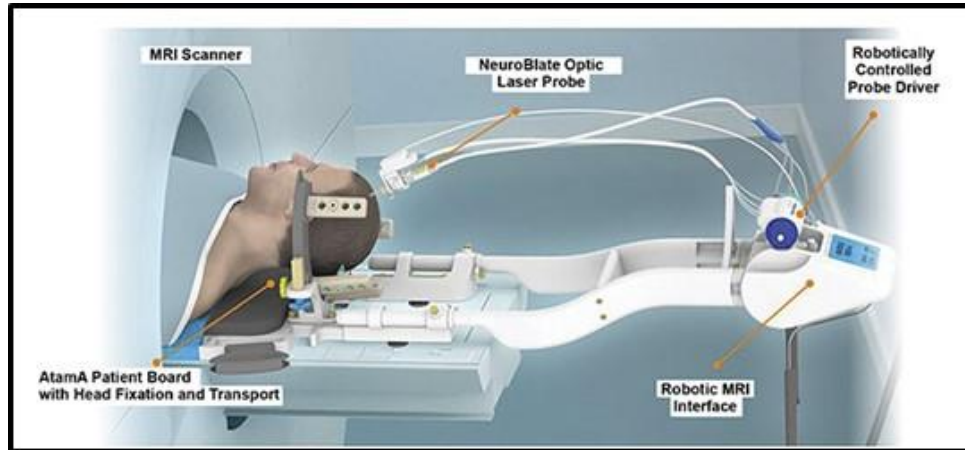


Figure 6: Laser Interstitial Thermal Therapy (LITT)

6.2 Chemotherapy: Chemotherapy includes the administration of drugs planned to eradicate tumor cells, typically by inhibit the growth, division and reproduction of these cells. Drugs that belong to enhanced abilities to cross the blood brain barrier are often selected for the treatment of brain tumors, and this category involves medication like Temozolomide (Temodar), Lomustine (CCNU), as well as many others.

-For individual diagnosed with Glioblastoma or High grade Glioma, the current standard of care involves radiation therapy combined with daily low dose Temozolomide for a period ranging from 6 months to 1 year.

-In case of anaplastic astrocytoma, whether it's a new diagnosis or unresponsive to previous treatments, Temozolomide may be recommended as part of the treatment plan.

-A regimen combining three drugs: Lomustin, Procarbazine (Matulane), and Vincristine (Vincasar) often referred to as PCV, have been employed alongside radiation therapy.

-Gliadel wafers offer a means of delivering the drug Carmustine (bicnu). These wafers are placed in the surgical area where the tumor were removed, providing localized treatment by following the surgery.[7]

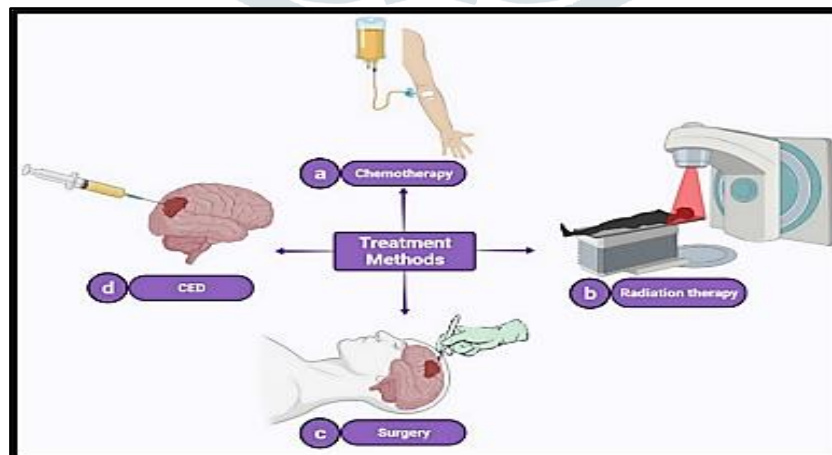


Figure 7: Demonstration of Chemotherapy

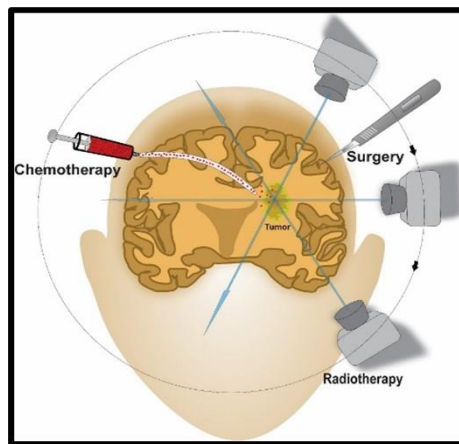


Figure 8: Surgical Chemotherapy

6.3 Targeted Therapy: The approach to cancer treatment alongside standard chemotherapy is targeted therapy. This strategy of treatment focuses on the specific genes, proteins, or tissue environment that contribute to the growth and survival of tumors. The targeted therapy offers a kind of approach in the treatment of brain tumors.

-Bevacizumab (Avastin, Mvasi) is an antiangiogenesis therapy used to treat Glioblastoma when previous treatments have not proven to be effective. The antiangiogenesis particularly focuses on the process of angiogenesis, which deals with the formation of new blood vessels.

-Larotrectinib (Vitrakvi) and Entrectinib (Rozlytrek) belong to a class of targeted therapies that does not focus on a specific tumor type but rather targeted a specific genetic alteration known as an NTRK fusion.

-Dabrafenib (Tafinlar) in combination with Trametinib (Mekinist) is approved for tumors containing BRAF mutations. These drugs have shown efficiency in treating malignant brain tumors, including Gliomas, in both adults and pediatric patients. [8,9]

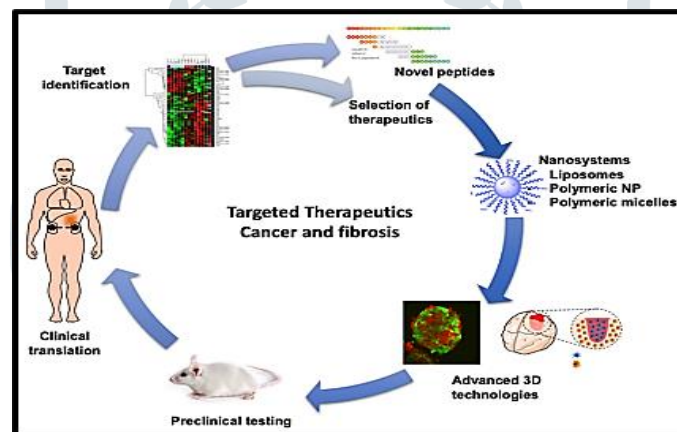


Figure 9: Targeted Therapy

6.4 Radiation Therapy: Radiation Therapy makes using high energy x-rays or other particles to eliminate tumor cells. A medical professional who specializes in administering radiation therapy for tumor treatment is known as a radiation oncologist. External beam radiation therapy may be directed in brain tumor in such ways as : **1. Conventional radiation therapy 2. 3-Dimensional Conformal Radiation Therapy (3D-CRT) 3. Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) 4. Proton therapy 5. Stereotactic radiosurgery.** [10]

6.4.1 Fractionated Stereotactic radiation therapy: Radiation in small daily doses called fractions over several days or weeks, instead of a single day radiosurgery. This method is suitable for tumors located near sensitive structures like optic nerves or brain stem. [1]



Figure 11: Fractional Stereotactic Radiation Therapy

6.5 Tissue sampling, Biopsy, or surgical extraction: Tissue sampling, biopsy, or surgical extraction of a tumor involves the essential step of obtaining a tissue sample to establish a definitive diagnosis. During a biopsy, a small portion of the tumor tissue is extracted for microscopic examination. Biopsies can be performed either as part of a surgical procedures aimed to remove the entire tumor, or in cases where complete tumor removal is not feasible due to its specific location within the brain or the patient’s overall health, surgery may be conducted separately.[12]

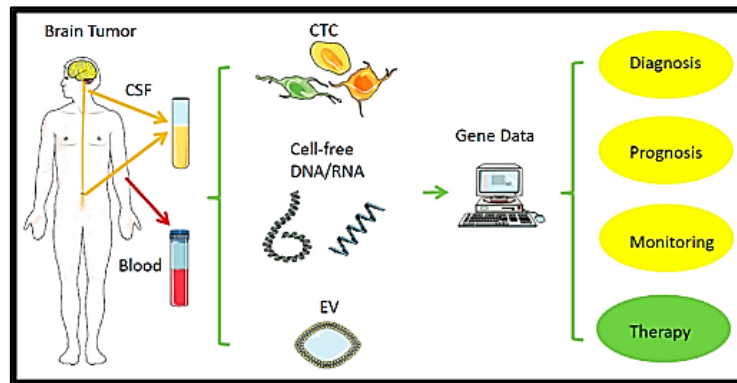


Figure 12: Tissue Sampling of Brain Tumor

6.6 Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI): MRI, or Magnetic Resonance Imaging, utilizes magnetic fields instead of x-rays to generate detailed internal body images. This imaging technique can gauge the size of the tumor, and to enhance image clarity, a contrast medium, known **Gadolinium**, is administered before the scan. This dye is typically injected into the patient’s vein.

The choice of MRI type is determined in partly by the results of a neuro examination conducted by a neurologist.

1. Intravenous (IV) gadolinium enhanced MRI has been commonly used for enhancing clarity in brain tumor images.
2. Functional MRI (fMRI) yields data about specific brain regions that are responsible for motor function and speech.
3. Magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS) is an MRI based test to give insights into the chemical composition of the brain.[13]

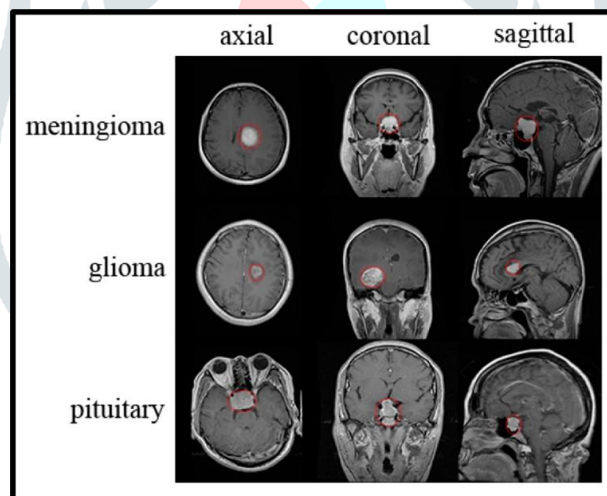


Figure 13: Representation Of MRI through spatial analysis

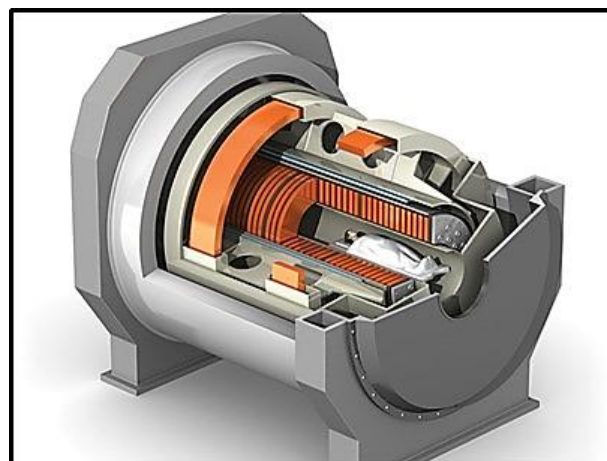


Figure 14: MRI Machine

6.7 Computed Tomography Scan (CT Scan): The CT scan (computed tomography) takes internal body images through x-rays from various angles. These images are processed by a computers to create a detailed three dimensional representations, which reveals any abnormalities or tumors. CT scan are valuable to detect intracranial bleeding, enlargements of brain fluid-filled spaces known as ventricles, and alterations in skull bone structures. They are also effective in assuming tumor sizes. In cases where MRI is to be contraindicated, such as when a patient has a pacemaker, CT scans serve as a suitable alternatives. [14]



Figure 15: CT Scan Machine

6.8 Positron Emission Tomography (PET): Positron emission tomography (PET) or PET-CT scanning be a medical imaging technique that generates visual representations of organs and tissues within the body using specific substances like sugars or proteins. PET scans are initially used to gain further insights into a tumor while a patient is undergoing treatments. They might also be utilized when a tumor recurs after treatment. Typically, a PET scan is combined with a CT scans, referred to as PET-CT scans. During these processes, a small quantity of a radioactive substances is injected into the patient's body. This substances are been absorbed by actively dividing cells, with tumor cells more likely to absorb it due to their rapid division. Subsequently, scanners detect this substances and produces detailed images of the body's interior. [15]

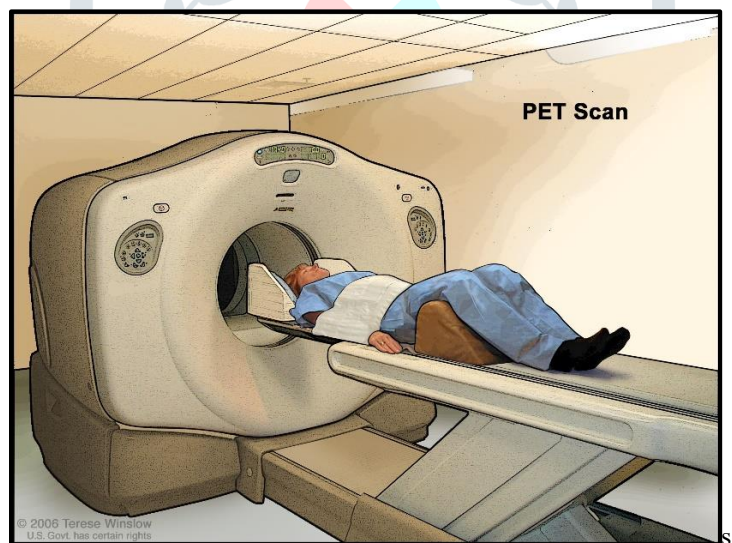


Figure 16: PET Scan Machine

6.9 Cerebral Arteriogram or Cerebral Angiogram: A Cerebral Arteriogram, also known as Cerebral Angiogram, be a medical procedure used to visualize the arteries within the brain. This involves taking x-ray images, either individually or in a series, of the head after introducing a contrast mediums, a specialized dye, into the primary arteries of the patient's head through injection. [16]

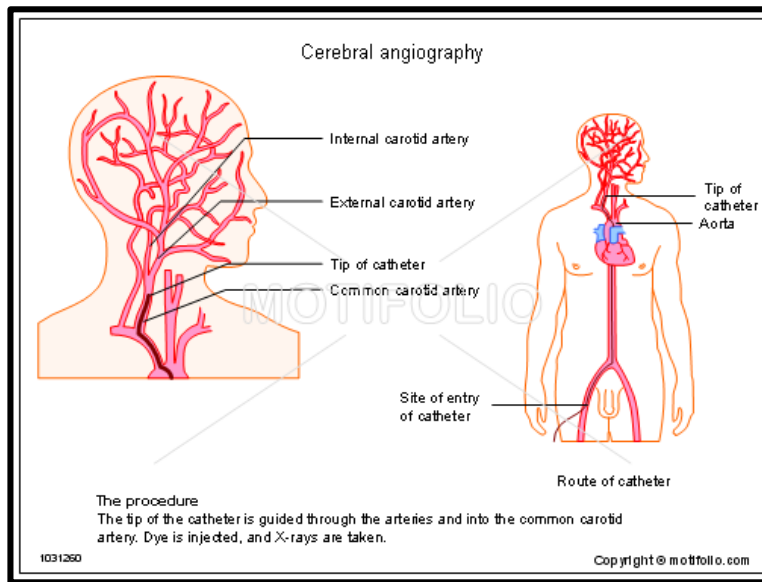


Figure 17: Cerebral Arteriogram or Cerebral Angiogram

6.10 Lumbar Puncture or Spinal Tap: A lumbar puncture, commonly referred to as a spinal tap, be a medical procedure performed to examine a sample of cerebrospinal fluids (CSF) for the presence of cancers cells, blood, or tumor markers. This involves the extraction of CSF using the needle. Tumor markers, or biomarkers, be substances that are detected in elevated levels in the blood, urine, spinal fluid, plasmas, or other bodily fluids of individuals with specific types of tumors. Usually, before the procedure, a local anesthetic be administered to numb the lower back of the patient. [17]

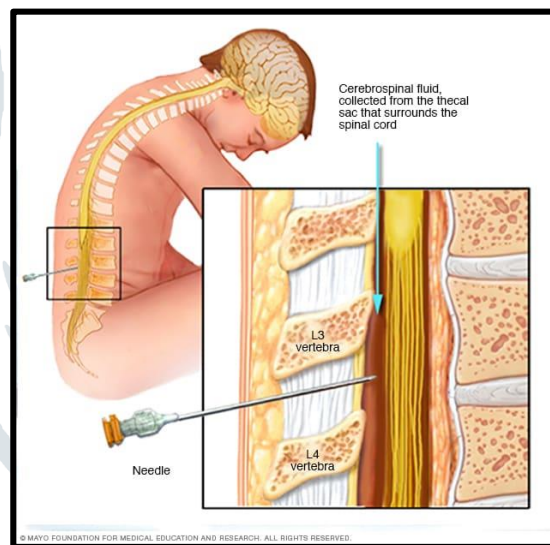


Figure 18: Lumbar Puncture or Spinal Tap

6.11 Myelogram: A myelogram be a diagnostic procedure that the doctor may suggest to determine if the tumor has extended into the spinal fluids, other areas of the brain, or the spinal cords. In a myelogram, a contrast dye is to be injected into the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) surrounding the spinal cord. This dye becomes visible on x-rays, and can outline the spinal cord, aiding the doctor in the searching for a tumor. It worth noting that this tests are performed infrequently; the more common approach is a lumbar puncture. [18]

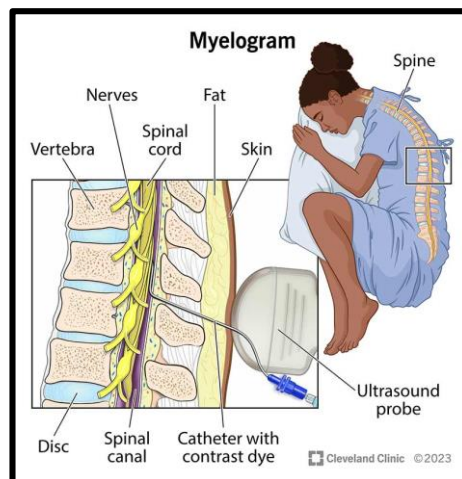


Figure 19: Myelogram

6.12 Electroencephalography (EEG): Electroencephalography (EEG) is a noninvasive procedure that involves placing electrodes on the exterior of a person's head to record the electrical activities of the brain. The primary purposes are to monitor and to detect potential seizures. [19]



Figure 20: Electroencephalography (EEG)

Conclusion: The review article has explored a diverse range of brain tumor detection devices and their significance in the field of brain tumor. The continuous advancements in medical technology have been leading to the development of innovative tools and techniques for early and accurate detection of brain tumors. From traditional imaging methods such as MRI and CT scans to cutting edge technologies like functional MRI and PET scans, these devices offer clinicians a comprehensive view of brain abnormalities. Brain tumor detection devices are at the forefront of medical technologies, and their continued evolution holds great promises for the early detection and treatment of brain tumors.

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