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Tumors and Pregnancy

Tumors during pregnancy [<https://medlineplus.gov/pregnancy.html>] are rare, but they can happen. Tumors can be either benign (not cancer) or malignant (cancer). The most common cancers in pregnancy include breast cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/breastcancer.html>], thyroid cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/thyroidcancer.html>], cervical cancer [<https://medlineplus.gov/cervicalcancer.html>], lymphoma [<https://medlineplus.gov/lymphoma.html>], and melanoma [<https://medlineplus.gov/melanoma.html>]. Cancer itself rarely harms the fetus, and some cancer treatments are safe during pregnancy. You and your health care provider will work together to find the best treatment. Your choices will depend on how far along the pregnancy is, as well as the type, size, and stage of your cancer.

Another type of tumor that women can get is called a gestational trophoblastic disease (GTD). It happens when a fertilized egg doesn't become a fetus. GTD is not always easy to find. It is usually benign, but some types can be malignant. The most common type of GTD is a molar pregnancy. In its early stages, it may look like a normal pregnancy. You should see your provider if you have vaginal bleeding (not menstrual bleeding).

Treatment depends on the type of tumor, whether it has spread to other places, and your overall health.

Start Here

- [Cancer during Pregnancy](https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/making-treatment-decisions/cancer-during-pregnancy.html) ([American Cancer Society](https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/making-treatment-decisions/cancer-during-pregnancy.html))
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/como-sobrelevar-el-cancer/tomar-decisiones-sobre-el-tratamiento/cancer-during-pregnancy.html>]

Treatments and Therapies

- [Cervical Cancer Treatment during Pregnancy](https://www.cancer.gov/types/cervical/treatment/cancer-treatment-during-pregnancy) ([National Cancer Institute](https://www.cancer.gov/types/cervical/treatment/cancer-treatment-during-pregnancy))
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/cuello-uterino/tratamiento/tratamiento-cancer-durante-embarazo>]
- [Drugs Approved for Gestational Trophoblastic Disease](https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/drugs/gestationaldisease) ([National Cancer Institute](https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/treatment/drugs/gestationaldisease))
- [Gestational Trophoblastic Disease Treatment](https://www.cancer.gov/types/gestational-trophoblastic/patient/gtd-treatment-pdq) ([National Cancer Institute](https://www.cancer.gov/types/gestational-trophoblastic/patient/gtd-treatment-pdq))
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/trofoblastico-gestacion/paciente/tratamiento-etg-pdq>]
- [Treating Breast Cancer during Pregnancy](https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/treatment/treating-breast-cancer-during-pregnancy.html) ([American Cancer Society](https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/breast-cancer/treatment/treating-breast-cancer-during-pregnancy.html))
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/tipos/cancer-de-seno/tratamiento/tratamiento-del-cancer-de-seno-durante-el-embarazo.html>]
- [Treatment of Hodgkin Lymphoma during Pregnancy](https://www.cancer.gov/types/lymphoma/patient/adult-hodgkin-treatment-pdq#_218) ([National Cancer Institute](https://www.cancer.gov/types/lymphoma/patient/adult-hodgkin-treatment-pdq#_218))
Also in Spanish [https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/linfoma/paciente/tratamiento-hodgkin-adultos-pdq#_218]

Related Issues

- Diethylstilbestrol (DES) Exposure and Cancer [<https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/hormones/des-fact-sheet>]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/cancer/causas-prevencion/riesgo/hormonas/hoja-informativa-des>]

Specifics

- Molar Pregnancy [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/molar-pregnancy/symptoms-causes/syc-20375175?p=1>] (Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.mayoclinic.org/es/diseases-conditions/molar-pregnancy/symptoms-causes/syc-20375175?p=1>]
- Pheochromocytoma during Pregnancy [https://www.cancer.gov/types/pheochromocytoma/patient/pheochromocytoma-treatment-pdq#_275]  (National Cancer Institute)
Also in Spanish [https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/feocromocitoma/paciente/tratamiento-feocromocitoma-pdq#_122]

Clinical Trials

- ClinicalTrials.gov: Cancer and Pregnancy [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=cancer+AND+pregnancy&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Gestational Trophoblastic Disease [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Gestational+Trophoblastic+Neoplasms%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Hydatidiform Mole [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Hydatidiform+Mole%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)
- ClinicalTrials.gov: Pregnancy Complications, Neoplastic [<https://clinicaltrials.gov/search?cond=%22Pregnancy+Complications,+Neoplastic%22&aggFilters=status:not%20rec>]  (National Institutes of Health)

Journal Articles

References and abstracts from MEDLINE/PubMed (National Library of Medicine)

- Article: Comparative survival analysis of HER2-positive Pregnancy-Associated Breast Cancer (PABC) and non-Pregnancy-Associated... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40750876>]
- Article: Cervical Cancer in Pregnancy: A 10-Year Retrospective Analysis of Clinical Management... [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40619884>]
- Article: Serum Proteomic Signatures of Pregnancy-associated Breast Cancer. [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/40571309>]
- Tumors and Pregnancy -- see more articles [<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=%22Pregnancy+Complications%2C+Neoplastic%22%5Bmajr%3Aneoexp%5D+OR+%28%22Neoplasms%22%5Bmajr%3Aneoexp%5D+AND+%22Pregnancy+Complications%22%5Bmajr%3Aneoexp%5D+%29+OR+%28%22Neoplasms%22%5Bmajr%3Aneoexp%5D+AND+%22Pregnancy%22%5Bmajr%3Aneoexp%5D+%29+AND+humans%5Bmh%5D+AND+english%5Bla%5D+AND+%22last+1+Year%22+%5Bdat%5D+NOT+%28letter%5Bpt%5D+OR+case+reports%5Bpt%5D+OR+editorial%5Bpt%5D+OR+comment%5Bpt%5D%29+AND+free+full+text%5Bsb%5D+>]

Find an Expert

- American Cancer Society [<https://www.cancer.org/>]
- Choosing a Cancer Doctor [<https://www.cancer.org/cancer/managing-cancer/finding-care/where-to-find-cancer-care/choosing-a-cancer-doctor.html>] (American Cancer Society)
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.org/es/cancer/como-sobrelevar-el-cancer/encontrar-tratamiento/como-elegir-un-medico-y-un-hospital/como-seleccionar-a-un-medico.html>]
- How to Find Find an Ob-Gyn [<https://www.acog.org/womens-health/find-an-ob-gyn>] (American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists)
- National Cancer Institute [<https://www.cancer.gov/>] 
Also in Spanish [<https://www.cancer.gov/espanol>]

Patient Handouts

- Choriocarcinoma [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001496.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/001496.htm>]
- Gestational trophoblastic disease [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007333.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/007333.htm>]
- Hydatidiform mole [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000909.htm>] (Medical Encyclopedia)
Also in Spanish [<https://medlineplus.gov/spanish/ency/article/000909.htm>]



MEDICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA

[Choriocarcinoma](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001496.htm) [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/001496.htm>]

[Gestational trophoblastic disease](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007333.htm) [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/007333.htm>]

[Hydatidiform mole](https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000909.htm) [<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000909.htm>]

National Institutes of Health

The primary NIH organization for research on *Tumors and Pregnancy* is the National Cancer Institute [<http://www.cancer.gov/>]

NIH MedlinePlus Magazine

[Diagnosed When Pregnant: A Young Mom's Breast Cancer Story](https://magazine.medlineplus.gov/article/diagnosed-when-pregnant-a-young-moms-breast-cancer-story) [<https://magazine.medlineplus.gov/article/diagnosed-when-pregnant-a-young-moms-breast-cancer-story>]

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