

# The most common cancers in childhood

The **most common malignancies in children** include:

1. acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL);
2. CNS tumors;
3. non-Hodgkin's malignant lymphomas (NHL);
4. neuroblastomas;
5. nefroblastomas (Wilms tumor);
6. osteosarcomas;
7. germ cell tumors.<sup>[1]</sup>

## The most common cancers in children under 15 years of age

- acute lymphoblastic leukemia (25% of tumors);
- brain tumors (22%);
- neuroblastoma (8%).<sup>[2]</sup>

## The most common cancers in adolescents (15 - 19 years)

- malignant lymphomas (25 % tumors);
- germ cell tumors (13 %);
- brain tumors (10 %).<sup>[2]</sup>

## Characteristic symptoms of cancer

- fever, headache, vomiting, paleness, fatigue, bone pain, lameness, weight loss, bleeding and / or the presence of tumor resistance.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Solid tumors in children

- make up more than 2/3 of cancers;
- tumors growing from undifferentiated tissues (so-called embryonic tumor types): neuroblastoma, retinoblastoma, hepatoblastoma, nefroblastoma, medulloblastoma, etc.;
- connective tissue tumors: soft tissue and bone sarcoma;
- carcinomas (epithelial and endothelial cell tumors) are typical of adulthood but are rare in children;
- 2 peaks of occurrence: 0 - 5 years (embryonic types of tumors predominate) and adolescence (bone and soft tissue sarcomas, brain and testicular tumors predominate).<sup>[3]</sup>

## Genetic syndromes predisposing to tumors

Li-Fraumeni syndrome, familial adenomatous polyposis syndrome, children with neurofibromatosis type I and II, Gardner syndrome, Lynch syndrome, Beckwith-Wiedemann syndrome, tuberous sclerosis etc.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Links

## References

1. MUNTAU, Ania Carolina. *Pediatric*. 4. edition. Praha : Grada, 2009. pp. 263. ISBN 978-80-247-2525-3.
2. LEBL, J – JANDA, J – POHUNEK, P, et al. *Klinická pediatrie*. 1. edition. Galén, 2012. 698 pp. pp. 569. ISBN 978-80-7262-772-1.
3. <https://www.linkos.cz/pacient-a-rodina/lecba/vekova-specifika/solidni-nadory-detskeho-veku/>