

A serious problem that may occur in cancer in which cancer cells spread from the original (primary) tumor to the meninges (thin layers of tissue that cover and protect the brain and spinal cord). It can happen in many types of cancer, but is the most common in melanoma, breast, lung, and gastrointestinal cancer. The cancer may cause the meninges to be inflamed. Also called [carcinomatous meningitis](#), leptomeningeal carcinoma, leptomeningeal carcinomatosis, leptomeningeal metastases, meningeal carcinomatosis, and neoplastic meningitis.

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