

# Primary meningeal melanomatosis

Meningeal [melanomatosis](#) is an extra-axial well-encapsulated malignant tumor with diffuse meningeal growth and dark coloration (due to high [melanin](#) contents), while [meningeal melanocytoma](#) is the focalized benign variant. [Melanocytic tumors](#) may be secondary to [melanoma](#) or be histologically benign, however, their diffuse nature makes them impossible to cure. [Melanocytosis](#) is a diffuse tumor that can form solitary extra-axial tumors, which invades the parenchyma and presents signs of malignancy with increased [mitosis](#) and [Ki67](#), observed in 1 to 6% of immunopathological exams. [Melanoma](#) of the [leptomeninges](#), presents signs of malignancy with anaplastic cells, which cluster in fascicles of [melanin](#) in the cytoplasm, with more than 3 atypical mitoses per field and Ki67 presenting in more than 6% of the immunopathological fields analyzed <sup>1)</sup>.

## Treatment

[Dacarbazine](#) (16–20% efficacy) combined with [radiotherapy](#) and [chemotherapy](#) has recently proven to be the most effective treatment for [melanomatosis](#).

## Case reports

A case of a patient with long-term meningeal melanomatosis, with progressive neurologic deficit and characteristic radiologic features <sup>2)</sup>.

<sup>1)</sup> , <sup>2)</sup>

Padilla-Vázquez F, Escobar-de la Garma VH, Ayala-Arcipreste A, Mendizábal-Guerra R, Cuesta-Mejía T. Melanocitoma y melanomatosis meníngea, lesiones similares pero diferentes [Melanocytoma and meningeal melanocytosis, similar but different lesions]. Cir Cir. 2017 May-Jun;85(3):273-278. Spanish. doi: 10.1016/j.circir.2016.11.006. Epub 2017 Jan 23. PMID: 28126183.

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