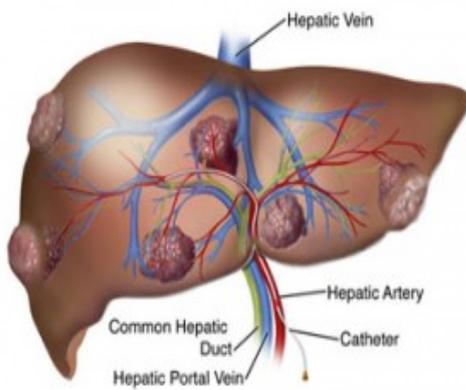


# Healthy Living

Your daily dose of health

## Surgeon removes eight pound hepatic malignant liver tumor

Christine Stomes · Monday, October 24th, 2011



**Liver tumors** or **hepatic tumors** are tumors or growths on or in the liver. Several distinct types of tumors can develop in the liver because the liver is made up of various cell types. These growths can be *benign* or *malignant* (cancerous). Eight pound tumor was successfully removed from a person suffering from hepatic malignant liver tumor by physicians at Loyola University Medical Center.

### What are different types of liver tumors?

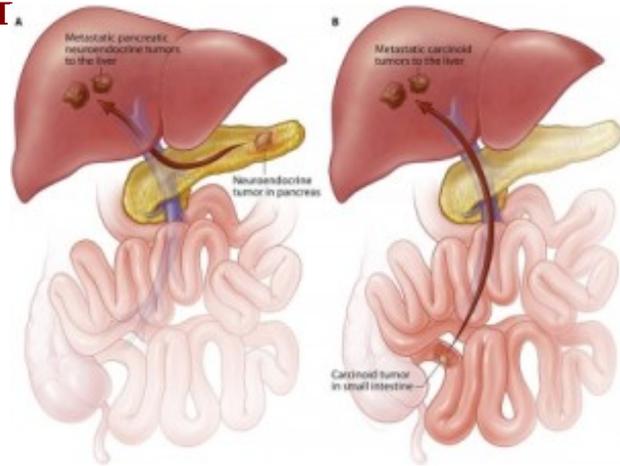
Malignant (cancerous) cases are metastases tumors, frequently of the GI tract. The most frequent, malignant, primary liver cancer is hepatocellular carcinoma.

Benign cases are Hemangiomas. These are the most common type of benign liver tumor, found in up to 7% of autopsy specimens. They start in blood vessels. Most of these tumors do not cause symptoms and do not need treatment. Some may bleed and need to be removed if it is mild to severe.

*Hepatic adenomas:* These benign epithelial liver tumors develop in the liver and are an uncommon occurrence, found mainly in women using estrogens as contraceptives, or in cases of steroid abuse. They are, in most cases, located in the right hepatic lobe and are frequently seen as solitary. The size of adenomas range from 1 to 30 cm. Symptoms associated with hepatic adenomas are all associated with large lesions which can cause intense abdominal pain.

## Surgeon Removes Eight Pound Liver Tumor

Dr. Margo Shoup, chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology at Loyola University Medical Center was able to remove the entire eight pound tumor from the liver of Muhich. Two years later, Muhich remains cancer-free.



Muhich visited a cardiologist for a heart rhythm disorder, where he found out about his cancer. The tumor was found to be responsible for causing the irregular heart rhythm as it was pressing against his vena cava, the largest vein in the body. This caused restricted blood flow to the heart and hence leading to atrial fibrillation. Cardiologist pointed out the growth in Muhich's liver, which was later diagnosed as a rare cancer called hepatic sarcoma.

Shoup found that, despite its size, the tumor was still contained and had not metastasized. It took five hour operation to remove the tumor. This procedure is associated with a significant risk of severe bleeding if the vena cava ruptured. Severe bleeding also could erupt from the liver, or from the tumor itself. The good news about Muhich's procedure was that he did not suffer from any post procedure complications fully recovered with his heart rhythm returned to normal.

Shoup observed "The highest risk of recurrence for hepatic sarcomas occurs during the first two years. Since he has reached the two year point without a recurrence, his prognosis is excellent".

Initially, when Muhich consulted physicians about his hepatic cancer, he was turned down and was referred to Dr. Shoup. It is good to see that Muhich was able to dodge the rare type of cancer, which was not only affecting his liver, but also was affect his heart rhythm.

Via

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