

# Solid Tumor

## An overview for school professionals

**Solid Tumor** is an abnormal mass that does not contain cysts or liquid areas. There are several types of solid tumors. They include: Ewing's Sarcoma, Germ Cell Tumor/Germinoma, Hepatoblastoma, Lipoblastoma, Malignant Fibrous Histiosarcoma, Neuroblastoma, Osteosarcoma, Retinoblastoma, Rhabdomyosarcoma, Synovial Sarcoma, and Wilms Tumor. Common treatment for a solid tumor diagnosis consists of chemotherapy, radiation, and possible surgery.

### What are some common symptoms of a solid tumor?

- Pain in specific body part
- Weight Loss
- Fatigue
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Decreased alertness
- Decreased ability to attend to tasks

### What type of support plan is appropriate for a student with a solid tumor?

Students with a solid tumor should have a 504 plan/IEP. The diagnosis of **a solid tumor** gives reasonable cause to bypass the SST process, which will allow you to provide immediate accommodations to the student. All teachers who provide instruction for your student should be made aware of these accommodations.

### What accommodations are necessary for a student with a solid tumor?

**ATTENDANCE:** Students with a solid tumor frequently miss school. They may require hospitalizations from time to time, sometimes for several weeks.

- full-time and/or intermittent hospital homebound services
- suspension of attendance requirements for absences due to medical appointments and illness, including allowances for student to participate in extra-curricular programs and events without penalty due to absences.
- partial-day attendance, as necessary

**ASSIGNMENTS:** It is important for teacher and parents to ensure that student receive assignments in a timely manner so student does not get further behind. It may also take the student with a solid tumor longer to complete assignments due to fatigue, pain, and/or frequent trips to the restroom.

- a system for providing advance assignments to the parent or student for absences due to planned medical appointments
- a system for providing make-up assignments in a timely manner when patient is absent due to illness or hospitalization
- modified assignments: Shorten assignments to emphasize mastery and to limit repetition.
- extra time to make up missed assignments
- teacher-provided copies of class notes missed during absences
- extra time to complete work and tests, including standardized tests

- allow student to keep his books at home (to be available for sudden onset illness, and to eliminate additional fatigue caused by carrying heavy books); a text should be made available to student in the classroom
- unlimited rest breaks in a designated location
- permission to have and drink water at the desk and during all activities
- unlimited bathroom privileges (student will need to stay hydrated and may be nauseated)
- permission to eat snacks at the desk or to leave class and have them in a designated location as needed
- permission to wear a hat or other head covering (please provide a pass to show school personnel)
- additional time to navigate the hall in between classes; allow student to leave class early or enter next class late (please provide a pass to show school personnel)
- access to a wheel chair and elevator, when needed

The list of accommodations above is not meant to be exhaustive; each student's unique needs will dictate the appropriate accommodations to be listed in his/her 504 plan. Most children with a solid tumor diagnosis have normal learning capabilities; however, the symptoms and side effects of solid tumor treatment can profoundly impact a child's educational outcomes. It is also possible that during their school career, a child may experience cognitive changes as a result of their disease. Consequently, it is possible that a student with a solid tumor may require the support of an IEP.