## Possible Side Effects of Radiotherapy for Brain Tumor Treatment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organ System</th>
<th>Acute Complications (During Treatment and up to Three Months after Treatment Ends)</th>
<th>Chronic Complications (Months to Years after Treatment)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| General      | • Acute fatigue  
• Weight loss  
• Seizures                                      | • Chronic fatigue  
• Pituitary gland damage (may require hormone replacement therapy)  
• Seizures |
| Skin & Scalp | • Irritation  
• Redness  
• Hair loss (partial or complete)  
• Possible peeling and/or blistering               | • Permanent changes to the skin appearance (thickening, darkening, color change)  
• Altered or incomplete hair regrowth (may affect part or all of the scalp) |
| Brain        | • Headaches  
• Swelling of the brain which can cause altered sensation, decreased strength, altered nerve function, and/or increased risk for seizures | • Headaches  
• Damage to normal brain causing alteration in ability to reason or remember, loss of strength or sensation in parts of body controlled by affected brain area |
| Eyes         | • Eye irritation  
• Eye dryness                                      | • Cataract formation  
• Eye dryness  
• Loss of vision from eye or nerve damage (rare) |
### Possible Side Effects of Radiotherapy for Brain Tumor Treatment

#### Acute Complications (During Treatment and up to Three Months after Treatment Ends)

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<th>Acute Complications</th>
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| Ears         | • Inflammation of ear canal with irritation, discharge, dizziness or sense of “fullness”  
               • Fluid buildup behind the ear drum  
               • Decreased or muffled hearing |
| Nose & Mouth | • Altered sense of taste or smell  
               • Mouth sores or dryness* |
| Gastrointestinal (Stomach) | • Nausea and/or vomiting  
                               • Discomfort with swallowing* |
| Radiation    | • Contra-indicated for scleroderma or active systemic lupus |

#### Chronic Complications (Months to Years after Treatment)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chronic Complications</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ears</td>
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</tbody>
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| Nose & Mouth          | • Altered sense of taste or smell  
                         • Decreased saliva production (rare) |
| Gastrointestinal (Stomach) | • Nausea and/or vomiting  
                               • Difficulty with swallowing* |
| Radiation             | • Radiation-induced cancer of the skin, lining of the brain (meninges), or brain tissue (rare) |

*only applies if your treatment area includes the lower or back part of the brain*