

VHL Disease Fact Sheet



VHL or von Hippel-Lindau is a genetic form of cancer. VHL patients battle a series of tumours throughout their lives. The VHL gene is involved in many other forms of cancer.

Finding a cure for VHL will play a vital role in curing cancer!

www.vhl-uk-ireland.org

www.vhl.org

Key facts:

- Sites at risk include: kidney, retina, spinal cord, brain, pancreas, adrenal gland and inner ear
- Studies of VHL gene have resulted in approval of multiple cancer drugs
- Particularly in the case of the kidney and pancreas, if not treated correctly, tumours can advance to malignant forms of cancer
- Currently, there are no approved drugs for treating of VHL.
- The VHL mutation is a dominant inherited trait: offspring have a 50% chance of inheriting the mutated VHL gene
- 20% of people with VHL are the first person in their families with this disease
- VHL affects people of all ethnicities in every country of the world
- The prevalence of VHL is approximately one-half of that of cystic fibrosis (1 in 32,000)
- Approximately 10,000 people in the United States are affected by VHL and 200,000 worldwide
- The VHL gene controls the major feeding pipeline of every tumour
- Curing von-Hippel Lindau brings us one step closer to curing many forms of cancer

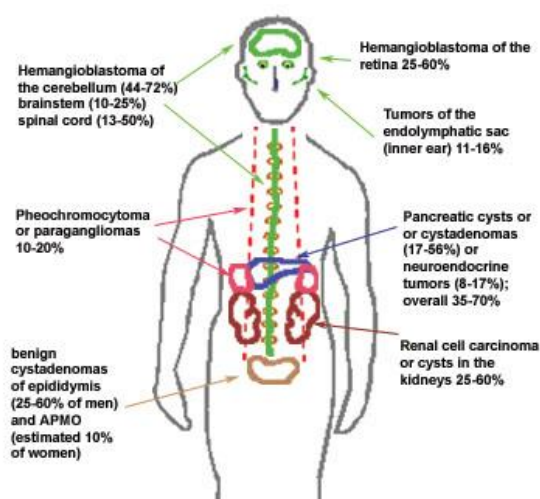


Figure 1 VHL occurrences in patients. Ref: www.vhl.org