

The Desmoid Tumor Research Foundation's (DTRF) mission is to aggressively fund research to accelerate the development of improved therapies and ultimately find a cure for desmoid tumors.

WHAT IS A DESMOID TUMOR?

Desmoid tumors (also known as aggressive fibromatosis, desmoid fibromatosis, and desmoid-type fibromatosis) do not metastasize. They are classified by the World Health Organization (WHO) as "Intermediate (locally aggressive)" soft tissue tumors. They do not fall under "Benign" or "Malignant" classifications. Due to a high rate of recurrence, active surveillance is recognized as the first line of therapy.

WHERE DO DESMOID TUMORS OCCUR?

These tumors can occur anywhere in the body, but common sites include the abdominal muscles, inside the abdomen, the head/neck area, trunk, breast, and the extremities. Per the Global Consensus Paper on Desmoid Tumor Management, treatments are dictated by tumor location.

"Discoveries made through desmoid tumor research may also be applicable to many more common diseases such as colon, breast, lung, ovarian and pancreatic cancers."

- Dr. Mehmet Oz



**LEARN MORE ABOUT
DESMOID TUMORS:**



WHO DEVELOPS DESMOID TUMORS?

Desmoid tumors are considered a rare disease. The estimated incidence in the general population is 5-6 per million people per year. (Numbers are likely to be greater because of the lack of recognition of this type of tumor by physicians and pathologists.) Individuals between the ages of 15-60 are most often affected. Desmoid tumors are seen 2 times more often in women than in men (2:1).

WHAT CAUSES DESMOID TUMORS?

More research is needed to understand the causes of desmoid tumors. DTRF-funded researchers have already made significant discoveries regarding the desmoid tumor initiating cell, causative biological pathways and factors involved in tumor recurrence after surgery. ***It is critically important that we keep such important research projects funded as current work will result in tomorrow's cure.***

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info@dtrf.org



**Ideally patients with desmoid tumors
should be evaluated by a
multidisciplinary sarcoma team.**