

# Diffuse midline glioma

- Specific entity added to the 2016 update of the WHO classification of CNS tumors, that represents the majority of diffuse intrinsic pontine gliomas
- Although identical tumors are also found elsewhere in the midline (e.g. brainstem, spinal cord and thalamus) <sup>1</sup>.
- They are aggressive tumors with poor prognosis and are considered WHO grade IV tumors regardless of histological features

# Epidemiology

- Majority of these tumors are found in young children and are located in the pons .
- They are also seen elsewhere in the midline. In such cases, they tend to be encountered in children and young adults.
- This is particularly the case with spinal cord tumors that are seen primarily in young adults .

# Location

- thalamus
- brainstem
  - mesencephalic
  - pontine: most common
  - medullary
- spinal cord
- usually minimal enhancement

