



CAN'T PLAY
ANYMORE

Her soccer dreams didn't change.
Her brain did.

Not all obesity is the same.

Issues with weight, hunger, and fatigue after a brain tumor could be a sign of **acquired hypothalamic obesity** (acquired HO)—a specific medical condition that can happen when part of the brain is injured.

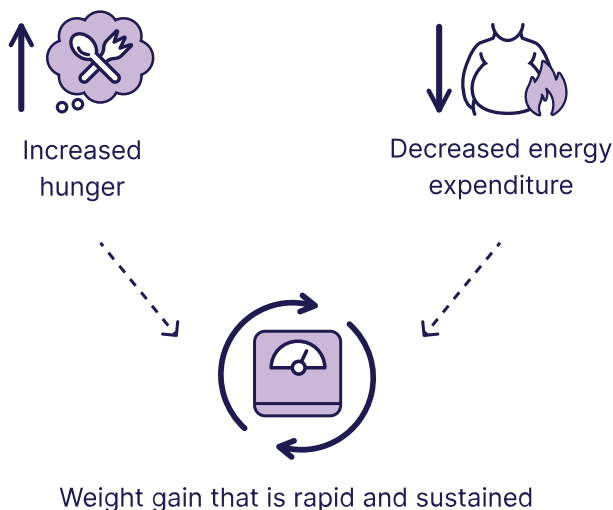
Acquired hypothalamic obesity (HO) is a condition that affects weight and hunger in many brain tumor survivors.

Causes & Symptoms of Acquired HO

While common causes include brain tumor (E.g., Craniopharyngioma) or treatment for a brain tumor (E.g., Surgery or radiation), other causes include traumatic brain injury, stroke and other neurological conditions.

Individuals living with acquired HO have damage to the hypothalamus, a key control center in the brain responsible for management of weight, hunger, and how calories are used.

Specific challenges of acquired HO



Unlike other types of obesity, two unique factors contribute to weight gain in acquired HO:

- Hunger that can be constant and hard to control, which is called **hyperphagia** (pronounced hi-per-fay-juh).
- Decreased energy expenditure, which is when the body uses fewer calories than it should each day. You can also think of this as having a slower metabolism.

These two factors can lead to weight increasing quickly and not responding to diet or exercise.

If you or a loved one are a survivor who has experienced rapid weight gain, know that this may be a medical condition. **The earlier acquired hypothalamic obesity is diagnosed, the sooner you and a doctor can make a plan to address it.**

