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Reese-Ellsworth Staging System

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Reese-Ellsworth Staging System*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C123333.

A staging system for intraocular retinoblastoma that was developed in the 1960s, when children were treated with external beam radiation therapy. This system can help determine the likelihood of preserving the vision while the tumor is being treated. It is divided into 5 stages, and each stage predicts the potential to save the eye with external beam radiation therapy. Today, radiation therapy is reserved as a last resort to save a second eye, when all other treatments have failed. As a result, the Reese-Ellsworth classification is now rarely used.