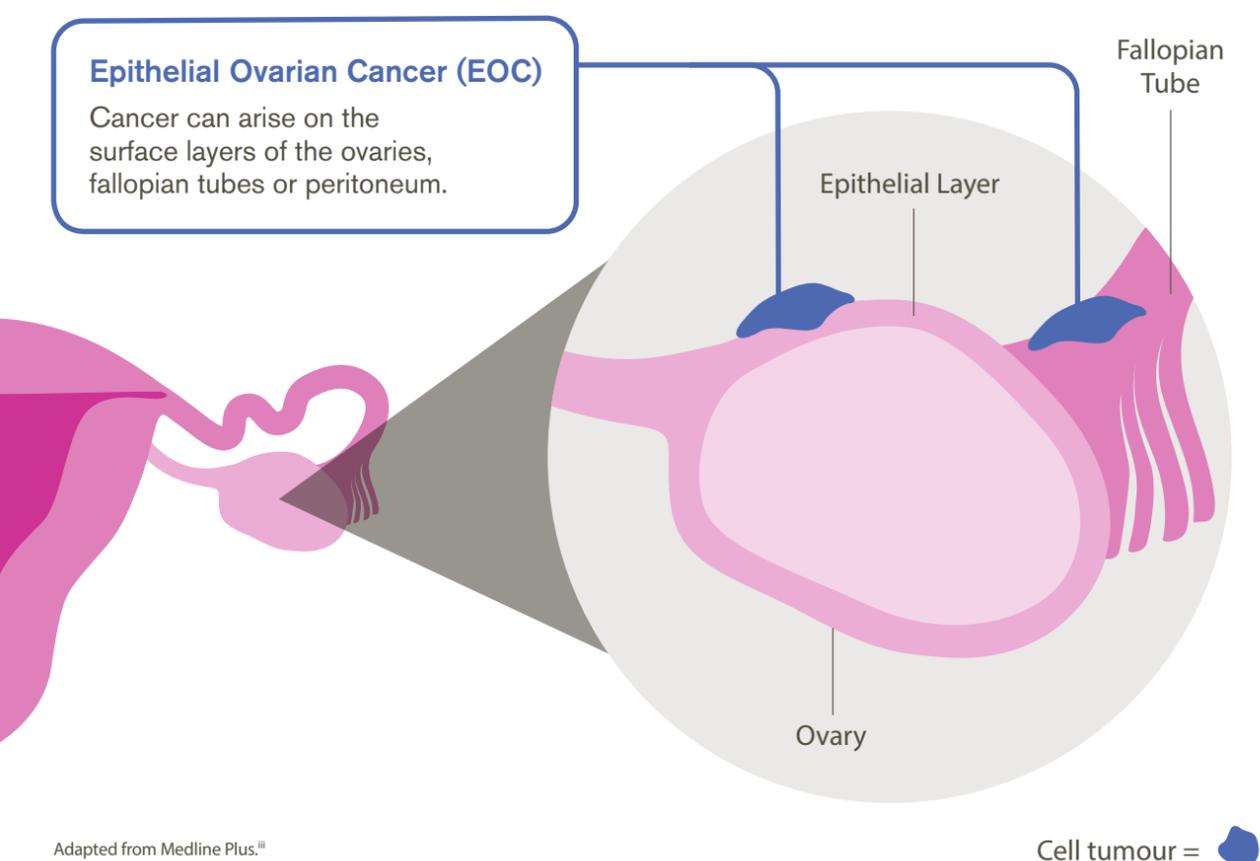


About Ovarian Cancer

Ovarian cancer is a form of cancer that occurs due to the abnormal and uncontrolled growth of cells from the ovaries, fallopian tubes or peritoneum.ⁱ

Ovarian cancer can start from three common cell types: epithelium, germ cells and stromal cells.

The most common type of ovarian cancer is epithelial, which accounts for 90% of all cases of ovarian cancer.ⁱ



Adapted from Medline Plus.ⁱⁱⁱ

Causes

It's not clear what causes ovarian cancer, but risk factors include:^{i,ii}

- Family history of ovarian or breast cancer
- Deleterious gene mutations including the *BRCA* gene
- Previously having endometriosis
- Increasing age
- Infertility
- Smoking
- Lynch syndrome (genetic disorder)



Signs & Symptoms

Many women with early ovarian cancer have no signs or symptoms and when present, they are similar to other, more common and benign conditions. This can make for a challenging and late diagnosis. Some early symptoms are:^{i,ii}

- Abdominal pain, swelling or bloating
- Changes in bowel movements
- Pelvic and lower back pain
- Fatigue
- Frequent or urgent need to urinate



Patients & Prevalence

Epithelial ovarian cancer is the **most common** type of ovarian cancerⁱ

In the US, ovarian cancer impacts **nearly 222,000** women annually^{iv}

Ovarian cancer is the **5th most frequent** cause of cancer death among women^v

Nearly **80% of women** with ovarian cancer are diagnosed in an **advanced stage**, when prognosis is poor^{vi}

The **5-year survival** rate for women with all types of ovarian cancer is less than **50%**^{vi}



Diagnosis

To help diagnose ovarian cancer, exams and tests may be used, such as:ⁱⁱ

- Biopsy
- Physical evaluation and pelvic exam
- Ultrasound and other imaging tests
- Blood tests



Treatment

In general, treatment for ovarian cancer may include a combination of the following:^{i,iii}

- Surgery
- Targeted therapy
- Chemotherapy



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