





FEMALE GENITAL TRACT: CANCERS





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Cervical cancer

Risk factors

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- Infection by HPV 16 & 18
- Smoking
- Prolonged OCP use
- Early sexual activity (<21 years)
- Immunodeficiency
- Cervical cancer is most commonly caused due to infection by Human Papilloma virus.

Clinical presentation

- Asymptomatic
- Dyspareunia
- Postcoital bleeding/ vaginal bleeding Vaginal discharge





Types

Squamous cell cancer

- Abnormal squamous cells have large, irregular nuclei.
- Precursor lesion: cervical intraepithelial neoplasia (CIN)
- Tip to remember: Cervix and Squamous both start with an 's' sound. Mail feature is bleeding after 'S'ex. Precursor is CIN (pronounced as 's'in)
- Adenocarcinoma



Endometrial cancer

1. **Post-menopausal bleeding** 2. **Types**

Type 1

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- Also known as endometroid type
- Caused by excess estrogen
 exposure/hyperplasia
- Associated with PTEN mutation
- Type 1 can be imagined as a fat cat that now weighs ten kgs.

Type 2

- Also known as non-endometroid
- Estrogen-indepent
- Caused by endometrial atrophy
- Associated with p53 mutation
- Has types: clear cell & serous.
- Type 2 can be imagined as a skinny & amp; thin cat that used to weigh 5 kg but now only weighs 3 kgs.





Ovarian cancer

Clinical presentation

F

- Abdominal pain/distention
- Abnormal uterine bleeding
- Sister Mary Joseph nodules (umbilicus)
- Surface epithelial cell tumours: MC ovarian cancer, aka Ovarian Adenocarcinoma, can be benign or malignant.

Mnemonic: Cancer Enters Body Mind Soul

Clear cell

• Large cells with clear cytoplasm

Endometroid

- Associated with Endometriosis
- Filled with chocolate coloured blood, aka Chocolate cysts.





Ovarian cancer

Mucinous

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- Lined by tall columnar epithelium secreting mucus
- Usually, unilateral
- Causes Pseudomyxoma peritonei (accumulation of mucus in the peritoneum)

Serous

- MC benign ovarian tumour, MC bilateral malignant ovarian tumor.
- Usually, bilateral
- Malignant adenocarcinoma associated with Psammoma bodies.
- Ovaries are quite SERIOUS most of the times.





Germ cell tumours

Dysgerminoma

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- Analogous to Seminoma in males.
- MC germ cell tumor, MC malignant ovarian tumor.
- Marker: LDH
- Clear cytoplasm surrounding central nucleus.
- Associated with Endometriosis, PCOS, BRCA1/BRCA2 mutation.

Teratoma

- Arise from totipotent cells, more than 1 germ cell layer
- May contain hair, teeth, nails etc
- Mature teratoma: Dermoid cyst
- Teratoma is Totipotent and has Teeth.





Germ cell tumours

Yolk sac tumour

1E

- Also known as endodermal sinus tumor
- Schiller-Duval bodies are found: germ cells around blood vessel.
- Positive for AFP (alpha fetoprotein)
- Tips to remember: the Alpha Fetus is a Chiller in the Yolk Sac

Choriocarcinoma

- Arises from trophoblastic tissue from intrauterine pregnancy/ectopic/retained placental bits/molar pregnancy.
- Produces beta-HCG
- Highly malignant and vascular tumor with metastasis to lungs, brain etc.
- Malignant cells are lightly-stained, large cytotrophoblasts.
- Arises from placental tissue hence everything is related to placenta.





Sex-cord stromal tumours

Sertoli-Leydig cell tumours

1E

- Secretes androgens (hirsutism)
- Microscopic finding: Reinke crystals are characteristically found (these are eosinophilic inclusions)

Granulosa-theca cell tumour

- Secretes estrogen (endometrial hyperplasia).
- Microscopic finding: Call-Exner bodies are found.
- You should always pick up Granny's Call.

