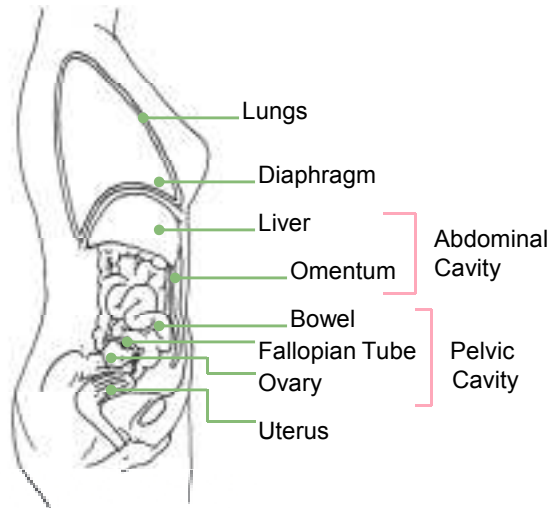


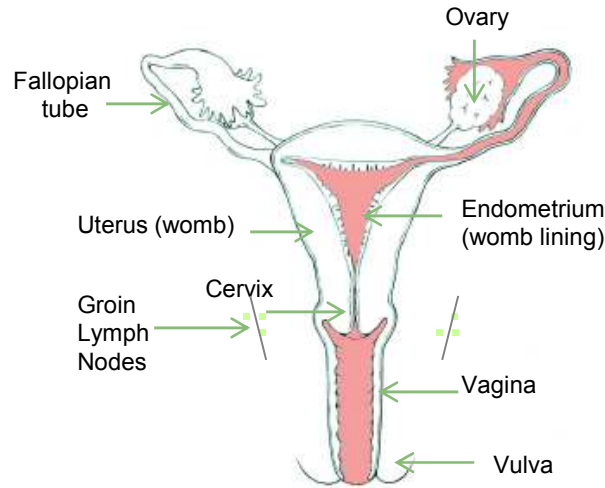
## INTRODUCTION

The tests that you've had have confirmed that you have cancer of the ovary. The ovaries are two oval shaped organs, which are located in the pelvis.



They produce hormones and each month release an egg, which travels to the womb to be fertilised by sperm; if not fertilised then it is shed in our periods each month. When we become menopausal we make fewer hormones, and so our periods gradually stop.

This can be a very anxious and confusing time for you and those who are close to you. These are very normal responses following a diagnosis of cancer. Within your hospital there is a specialist team who will support you through your treatment and continued follow up.



This leaflet aims to give you a basic understanding of your diagnosis and treatment. Do not hesitate to ask your specialist team for further information.

## WHAT TREATMENT MAY BE INVOLVED?

- Surgery alone
- Surgery followed by Chemotherapy
- Chemotherapy alone

Your specialist team will discuss with you the most appropriate treatment according to your individual condition and stage of the cancer.

## SURGERY

The aim of surgery is to remove the tumour. It may be necessary for a hysterectomy and biopsies. Before surgery you will have a discussion with your specialist team regarding your surgery and aftercare, enabling you to ask any questions. Patients undergoing this surgery would need pre operative tests and assessment. This allows us to make sure that you are fit for your surgery and also that you are emotionally prepared.

## CHEMOTHERAPY

Chemotherapy is giving cancer cell destroying drugs.

Chemotherapy can also be given without surgery as it can help to shrink down tumours that could not be removed, and then surgery may be offered.

For more information on possible side effects, please contact your specialist team who will provide further information on the individual chemotherapy to be used.

## RESEARCH

As with many cancers, there is a lot of research still required. You may be asked to help. Your team will give you lots of information and plenty of time to make a decision. Your involvement in any research is entirely voluntary. It makes no difference to your care whether or not you contribute to any research projects.

## FOLLOW UP ONCE TREATMENT HAS BEEN COMPLETED

Once you have finished your treatment you will have continued contact with your specialist team or GP. This will normally be for 5 years. At any time, if you have concerns or become unwell with regard to your cancer or treatment, please do not hesitate to contact your team for advice or an earlier appointment.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please do not hesitate to contact a member of your specialist team for advice or support. For further information on local user groups / support groups, please contact your Specialist Nurse who will be able to discuss this with you.

## USEFUL ORGANISATIONS

### Macmillan Cancer Support

Offering up-to-date cancer information, practical advice and financial support for cancer patients, their families, and carers. Call free on 0808 808 00 00  
[www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk)

### CancerHelp UK

Reliable patient information from Cancer Research UK. Freephone helpline 0808 800 4040  
[www.cancerhelp.org.uk](http://www.cancerhelp.org.uk)

### Gynae C

Support for women with any form of gynaecological cancer, their partner, family and friends, via email, telephone, newsletter, and the web.  
Tel. 01793 491116  
[www.gynaec.co.uk](http://www.gynaec.co.uk)

### Ovacome

A UK-wide network providing information and support for everyone affected by ovarian cancer  
Freephone helpline 0845 371 0554  
[www.ovacome.org.uk](http://www.ovacome.org.uk)

### Target ovarian cancer

ovarian cancer charity providing information and support and working to improve treatment and care of women with ovarian cancer. Tel 020 7923 5470  
[www.targetovarian.org.uk](http://www.targetovarian.org.uk)

### CancerLinks

Local and national information for people in the Thames valley with cancer, their carers and family.  
[www.cancerlinks.org.uk](http://www.cancerlinks.org.uk)

### Healthtalk Online

A website containing personal experiences of health and illness, information and interviews on over 100 illnesses including experiences of ovarian cancer.  
[www.healthtalkonline.org](http://www.healthtalkonline.org)



**CANCER OF THE**  
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