Ovarian Cancer in Michigan

Updated April 2019

- Ovarian cancer is not one single disease, but has subtypes that have different risk factors, prognoses, and treatments. ¹
- Ovarian cancer causes more deaths than cervical, uterine, vaginal, and vulvar cancers combined. ¹
- In 2019, it is estimated that there will be 730 new cases of ovarian cancer and 490 deaths from ovarian cancer in Michigan women. ²

Michigan Ovarian Cancer Trends and Disparities

- The rate of new ovarian cancer diagnoses have declined from 16 cases per 100,000 Michigan women in 1985 to 10 cases per 100,000 women in 2016. ³
- The rate of ovarian cancer deaths have declined from 9 cases per 100,000 women in 1985 to 6 cases per 100,000 women in 2017. ³
- Although data for Hispanic women in Michigan is suppressed due to low numbers, national data show after White women, Hispanic women have the second highest rate of new diagnoses (11 and 10 cases per 100,000 respectively). ⁴

Ovarian Cancer Risk Factors: ¹

- 45 years of age or older
  - In Michigan, 89% of cases occurred after age 45
- A personal or family history of ovarian cancer on either the mother or father’s side
- Inherited genetic mutations for hereditary cancer syndromes, including hereditary breast and ovarian cancer syndrome, Lynch syndrome, and LiFraumeni syndrome
- Obesity
- Never having given birth
- Use of hormone replacement therapy
- A history of endometriosis
- Increased number of lifetime ovulatory cycles

Ovarian Cancer New Diagnoses and Deaths by Race in the U.S. and Michigan, 2016 and 2017

Ovarian Cancer New Diagnoses by Age in Michigan, 2012-2016

Source: Michigan Cancer Surveillance Program (MCSP), Division of Vital Records and Health Statistics. Based on data released Apr 2019.
Early Detection of Ovarian Cancer

- Common symptoms of ovarian cancer include persistent bloating, pelvic pain, trouble eating or feeling full quickly, or urinary symptoms such as urgency or frequency.¹
- Early ovarian tumors often have no symptoms and are difficult or impossible to feel through a pelvic exam.¹
- In the U.S., women diagnosed with ovarian cancer have a 46% chance of surviving five-years.³
- In the U.S., Black women have a significantly lower five-year survival rate (39%) compared to White women (46%) (data not shown).⁵
- In Michigan, only 22% of ovarian cancers are found at the localized stage; however, when it is found early the five-year survival rate is 92%.⁵
- Only 29% of U.S. women diagnosed in the distant stage will survive five years. In Michigan, 48% of women are diagnosed at this stage.⁵

Genetic Testing and Counseling for Inherited Genetic Mutations¹

Women with a personal or family history of breast and ovarian cancer should consult their healthcare provider about genetic counseling and testing for inherited genetic mutations. Inherited genetic mutations, such as mutations in BRCA1/BRCA2, are rare in the general population, but are more prevalent in specific populations. Approximately 0.2% of the U.S. population have BRCA1/BRCA2 mutations, but 10% to 15% of women diagnosed with invasive ovarian cancers have the mutations. Other hereditary cancer syndromes can also increase the risk for ovarian cancers.