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Bilateral salpingectomy: An opportunity for cancer prevention

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Epithelial ovarian cancer is the most common lethal gynecologic malignancy. Recent evidence describes the role of the distal fimbriae of the fallopian tube in what has traditionally been called high grade serous carcinoma of the ovary. Prior studies have shown that bilateral salpingoophorectomy following completion of childbearing for patients with BRAC1/BRCA2 mutations prevents ovarian cancer. Some studies have shown bilateral salpingectomy with ovarian preservation in low risk women, performed at the time of female sterilization or during other gynecologic surgeries following completion of childbearing, reduces the risk of ovarian cancer. Current research regarding the risks and benefits of bilateral salpingectomy as primary prevention for women at low risk of ovarian cancer will be reviewed here.

Biography

Gwyn Richardson is an Assistant Professor of Gynecologic Oncology at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston TX. She is also the Associate Clerkship Director for the Obstetrics and Gynecology 3rd year Medical School Clerkship. She holds the Francis Eastland Conally Professorship in Gynecologic Oncology.

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