

# KNOW THE KEY FACTS OVARIAN CANCER

**There are three major categories of ovarian cancer: epithelial ovarian cancer, germ cell cancer, and stromal cell cancer.**

**Patients with early-stage disease may notice any of the common symptoms of ovarian cancer, including bloating, pelvic pain, increased urinary frequency or urgency, and difficulty eating or feeling full quickly.**

**The FWC [ovarian cancer](#) web page will take you through the basics of what you need to know about this gynecologic cancer.**



## Symptoms

- Bloating
- Urinary symptoms, urgency or frequency
- Pelvic or abdominal pain
- Difficulty eating or feeling full quickly

These symptoms are particularly concerning if they occur almost daily for a few weeks or more. If this happens to you, see a doctor, preferably a gynecologist, and specifically ask about the possibility of ovarian cancer as a cause of your symptoms. If ovarian cancer is suspected or diagnosed, seek care first from a gynecologic oncologist.



## Risk Reduction

- Genetic testing
- Use of oral contraceptives
- Consider risk reducing surgery if genetic testing indicates very high risk
- Understand your risk and listen to your body for symptoms
- If ovarian cancer is suspected or diagnosed, seek care first from a gynecologic oncologist



## Risk Factors

- Risk increases with age, especially around the time of menopause.
- Family history of ovarian cancer, fallopian tube cancer, primary peritoneal cancer, or premenopausal breast cancer, or a personal history of premenopausal breast cancer.
- Infertility and not bearing children are risk factors, while pregnancy and the use of birth control pills decrease risk.
- Family history of both colon and endometrial cancers: any male family member with breast cancer.
- Ashkenazi Jewish heritage