



## Gynecological Cancer: Understanding the Types, Causes, Symptoms and Treatment Options and Its Impact on Reproductive Health

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### INTRODUCTION

Gynecological cancer refers to the types of cancer that affect the female reproductive system, which includes the cervix, ovaries, uterus, fallopian tubes, and vagina. These cancers can be highly dangerous and often require prompt diagnosis and treatment to prevent their progression. In this review paper, we will discuss the common types of gynecological cancer, their causes, symptoms, and treatment options. Gynecological cancer can have various effects on a newborn child, depending on the type and stage of cancer, as well as the treatment options used. Here are some of the potential ways that gynecological cancer can affect a newborn child [1,2].

### DESCRIPTION

#### Cervical cancer

Cervical cancer is one of the most common types of gynecological cancer, affecting the lower part of the uterus. This cancer is caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV), which is transmitted through sexual contact. It is important to note that not all women with HPV will develop cervical cancer. Symptoms of cervical cancer include vaginal bleeding, pain during intercourse, and pelvic pain. Cervical cancer can be diagnosed through a Pap smear, which is a screening test that detects abnormal cells in the cervix. Treatment for cervical cancer may include surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy [3].

#### Ovarian cancer

Ovarian cancer is a type of cancer that affects the ovaries, which are responsible for producing eggs. This cancer is difficult

to detect in its early stages because the symptoms are often vague and can be attributed to other conditions. Symptoms of ovarian cancer may include abdominal swelling or bloating, pelvic pain, and difficulty eating or feeling full quickly. Ovarian cancer is usually diagnosed through a pelvic exam, ultrasound, or blood test. Treatment for ovarian cancer may include surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy.

#### Uterine Cancer

Uterine cancer, also known as endometrial cancer, is a type of cancer that affects the lining of the uterus. This cancer is caused by the abnormal growth of cells in the uterus. Symptoms of uterine cancer may include abnormal vaginal bleeding, pelvic pain, and discharge. Uterine cancer can be diagnosed through a biopsy, which is a test that examines a sample of tissue from the uterus. Treatment for uterine cancer may include surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy [4].

#### Fallopian tube cancer

Fallopian tube cancer is a rare type of gynecological cancer that affects the fallopian tubes, which are responsible for transporting eggs from the ovaries to the uterus. This cancer is often asymptomatic in its early stages, making it difficult to detect. Symptoms of fallopian tube cancer may include abdominal pain, abnormal vaginal bleeding, and discharge. Fallopian tube cancer can be diagnosed through a pelvic exam, ultrasound, or biopsy. Treatment for fallopian tube cancer may include surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy [5].

#### Vaginal cancer

Vaginal cancer is a type of cancer that affects the vagina, which is the muscular tube that connects the cervix to the

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outside of the body. This cancer is rare and often occurs in women over the age of 60. Symptoms of vaginal cancer may include vaginal bleeding, discharge, and pain during intercourse. Vaginal cancer can be diagnosed through a pelvic exam, biopsy, or imaging tests. Treatment for vaginal cancer may include surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation therapy [6].

### Newborn complications associated with maternal gynecological cancer

**Fertility:** Depending on the type of gynecological cancer and the treatment options used, a woman's fertility may be affected. If a woman needs to have her uterus or ovaries removed as part of her cancer treatment, she may no longer be able to conceive a child naturally. In such cases, women may consider alternative methods of reproduction, such as adoption, surrogacy, or in vitro fertilization (IVF) using donor eggs.

**Pregnancy complications:** Women who have a history of gynecological cancer may experience complications during pregnancy, such as preterm labor, premature rupture of membranes, and preeclampsia. These complications may be more common in women who have had radiation therapy or chemotherapy, which can affect the functioning of the ovaries and uterus.

**Birth defects:** Some studies have suggested that there may be an increased risk of birth defects in babies born to mothers who have had cancer [7]. The exact cause of this increased risk is unclear, but it may be related to the effects of chemotherapy or radiation therapy on the developing fetus.

**Inherited risk:** Some gynecological cancers, such as ovarian and breast cancer can be caused by inherited genetic mutations. If a woman has a genetic mutation that increases her risk of these cancers, she may pass that mutation on to her children. This means that her children may also be at an increased risk of developing gynecological cancers or other types of cancer later in life.

**Neonatal jaundice:** In rare cases, newborns born to mothers who have had cancer may develop neonatal jaundice, which is a condition characterized by high levels of bilirubin in the blood. This may be due to the transfer of cancer cells or cancer-fighting drugs from the mother to the baby during pregnancy. It is important to note that not all women who have had gynecological cancer will experience these effects on their newborn children [8]. The risks and outcomes will vary depending on the specific type of cancer, the stage at which it was diagnosed, and the treatment options used. Nevertheless, women who have had gynecological cancer should be aware of these potential effects and discuss any concerns with their healthcare providers.

## CONCLUSION

Gynecological cancer is a serious condition that affects many women worldwide. Early detection and treatment are crucial in improving outcomes for patients with these types of cancer. Regular screenings, such as Pap smears and pelvic exams can help detect gynecological cancer in its early stages when it is most treatable. If you are experiencing any symptoms of gynecological cancer, it is important to speak with your healthcare provider to receive an accurate diagnosis and appropriate treatment. Gynecological cancer can have various effects on a newborn child, ranging from fertility issues to an increased risk of birth defects or neonatal jaundice. Women who have had gynecological cancer should discuss any concerns they have about their reproductive health and the potential effects on their future children with their healthcare providers. Regular follow-up care and monitoring can help to ensure the best possible outcomes for both the mother and her child.

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## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author has no conflicts of interest to declare.

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