

Ovarian Cancer



Treatment Options

This NCCN QUICK GUIDE™ sheet summarizes key points from the complete *NCCN Guidelines for Patients*®: *Ovarian Cancer*. These guidelines explain which tests and treatments are recommended by experts in cancer. To view and download the guidelines, visit NCCN.org/patients or, to order printed copies, visit Amazon.com.

NCCN Guidelines
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How do doctors choose treatment options?

■ Treatment options depend on the cancer stage—how far the cancer has grown and spread.	24
■ The main treatment used to rid the body of cancer is called the primary treatment.	32

What are the main options for newly diagnosed ovarian cancer?

LMP tumor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Observation with follow-up tests ■ Surgery to remove one ovary and its fallopian tube + surgical staging ■ Completion surgery ± chemotherapy next 	46
Stage I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Surgery to remove one ovary and its fallopian tube (if cancer is only in one ovary) + surgical staging ■ Surgery to remove both ovaries, fallopian tubes, and the uterus + surgical staging 	50
Stage II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Surgery to remove both ovaries, both fallopian tubes, the uterus, and all cancer that can be seen + surgical staging 	56
Stage III or Stage IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Surgery to remove both ovaries, both fallopian tubes, the uterus, and all cancer that can be seen ■ Start chemotherapy to shrink the cancer, then surgery as described above 	56

What are the main options for ovarian cancer found by prior surgery?

Stage I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No more surgery ■ Surgical staging ± completion surgery 	52
Stage II, III, or IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ No more surgery ■ Completion surgery ■ Start chemotherapy to shrink the cancer, then completion surgery 	58

What are the options after primary treatment with surgery?

Stage I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Observation with follow-up tests ■ Chemotherapy given in a vein (IV chemo) for 3 to 6 cycles 	54
Stage II, III, or IV	<p>Option if <1 cm of cancer is left after surgery for stage II or III:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Chemotherapy given in the abdomen (IP chemo) <p>Option for all patients after surgery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Chemotherapy given in a vein (IV chemo) for a total of 6 to 8 cycles 	60



How will I know if treatment is working?

■ Your doctors will give tests during and after treatment to check how well it is working.	64
■ An outcome or improvement due to treatment is called a treatment response.	62
■ A relapse or recurrence is when cancer comes back after a treatment response.	66

What are the options after chemo for stage II, III, or IV ovarian cancer?

All signs and symptoms of cancer are gone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Clinical trial ■ Observation with follow-up tests ■ Maintenance treatment with paclitaxel or pazopanib 	62
Cancer improved some, stayed the same, or it kept growing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Clinical trial ■ Start recurrence treatment ■ Best supportive care given alone or with treatments above 	62

What are the options for cancer that has come back after treatment?

No prior chemo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Surgical treatment with or without chemotherapy 	66
Relapse based on increase in CA-125 levels only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Clinical trial ■ Wait until symptoms appear, then start recurrence treatment ■ Start recurrence treatment right away 	66
Relapse <6 months after the end of chemotherapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Clinical trial ■ Start recurrence treatment with a different type of chemo drug ■ Best supportive care given alone or with treatments above 	66
Relapse ≥6 months after the end of chemotherapy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Maybe more surgery, then ■ Clinical trial ■ Platinum-based chemotherapy (preferred) as recurrence treatment ■ Recurrence treatment with a different type of chemo drug 	66

How do I decide between treatment options?

■ Ask your doctors many questions.	72
■ You may want to get a 2 nd opinion.	75
■ Your role in making treatment decisions is your choice.	75

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