

Media Backgrounder

WORLD FACTS ABOUT OVARIAN CANCER

Ovarian cancer is diagnosed annually in nearly a quarter of a million women globally, and is responsible for 140,000 deaths each year.

Statistics show that just 45% of women with ovarian cancer are likely to survive for five years compared to up to 89% of women with breast cancer.

There is no effective screening test for ovarian cancer. Ovarian Cancer is the most fatal gynecological cancer.

Find out more: www.ovariancancerday.org

All women are at risk of getting ovarian cancer – but some are at higher risk.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW

Symptoms of ovarian cancer can often be confused with other less serious conditions such as gastrointestinal disorders. Symptoms include:

- Increased abdominal size / persistent bloating (not bloating that comes and goes)
- Difficulty eating/feeling full quickly
- Abdominal or pelvic pain
- Needing to pass urine more urgently or more frequently

See your family doctor if you have one or more of these symptoms and they last longer than 3 weeks.

If you have a family history, speak with your doctor about genetic counseling.

5 KEY FACTS

- 1. All women are at risk of ovarian cancer.
- 2. Awareness of the early warning signs of the disease could save lives.
- 3. Diagnosis at an early stage vastly improves a woman's chance of survival.
- 4. Ovarian cancer is often diagnosed at a late stage.
- 5. Many women mistakenly believe the cervical smear test (Pap test) will detect ovarian cancer.