



**AGL** 2022

**51st GLOBAL CONGRESS ON MIGS**

December 1–4, 2022 | Gaylord Rockies Resort and Convention Center | Aurora, Colorado

# SYLLABUS

## ONC-606: Oncology Controversies for the Practicing Gynecologist

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AstraZeneca, Merck

## ONC-606: Oncology Controversies for the Practicing Gynecologist

**Co-Chairs:** Dario R. Roque, MD, Fernando Heredia, MD

**Faculty:** Emma L. Barber, MD, MS, Gulden Menderes, MD, Edward J. Tanner, MD, MBA

### Course Description

This course will provide an overview of three oncology related topics that would be of interest to any practicing gynecologic surgeon. First, we will present evidence-based guidelines for the work-up and management of the pelvic mass. This will include a review of imaging modalities and features that could help differentiate benign vs. malignant lesions, as well as a discussion of surgical approach (i.e., MIS vs laparotomy) and extent of surgery in special cases (i.e., cystectomy vs. oophorectomy in borderline tumors). The second topic will focus on the impact of uterine manipulators on oncological outcomes in endometrial cancer surgery. This topic will be presented in a debate format. The debaters will review the current literature and make an argument for and against the use of uterine manipulators in patients undergoing MIS for endometrial cancer. The last topic will also be presented in a debate format and will address the role of MIS in interval debulking surgery for ovarian cancer. The presenters will review the current literature, provide videos demonstrating the feasibility of the minimally invasive technique and make an argument for and against this surgical approach in the management of patients with ovarian cancer.

### Learning Objectives

*At the conclusion of this course, the participants will be able to:* 1) Choose the appropriate workup and surgical approach for patients with a pelvic mass; 2) Describe the benefits and potential risks of uterine manipulator use in patients undergoing MIS for endometrial cancer; and 3) State the significance and limitations of MIS in the management of ovarian cancer.

### Course Outline

7:00 am	Welcome, Introduction and Course Overview		R. Roque/F. Heredia
<b>DEBATE #1: Uterine Manipulator Use in Endometrial Cancer Surgery</b>			
7:50 am	Pro		E.L. Barber
8:05 am	Con		F. Heredia
8:20 am	Questions and Answers - Discussion		
<b>DEBATE #2: Minimally Invasive Surgery for Ovarian Cancer Interval Debulking</b>			
8:30 am	Pro		G. Menderes
8:45 am	Con		E.J. Tanner
9:00 am	Questions & Answers - Discussion		
9:30 am	Adjourn		




# Management of the Pelvic Mass:

Who is it safe for me to operate on and who should I refer?


Oncology Controversies for the Practicing Gynecologist  
AAGL Post-Graduate Course – ONC 606  
December 1, 2022

Dario R. Roque, MD  
Assistant Professor, Division of Gynecologic Oncology  
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine



## Disclosure


- Consultant: Myriad Genetics
- Speakers Bureau: GSK and Myriad Genetics
- Surgical Proctor: Intuitive



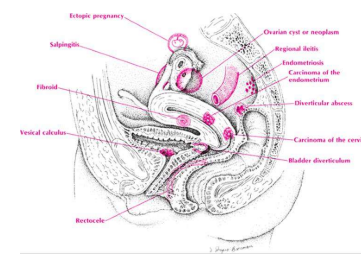
## Objectives

By the end of the presentation, participants will be able to:

- Outline the clinical approach and evaluation of the patient with a pelvic mass
- Distinguish the imaging characteristics of benign versus malignant lesions
- Discuss the rationale for choosing surgery over observation in patients with an adnexal mass
- Review criteria for referral to a gynecologic oncologist



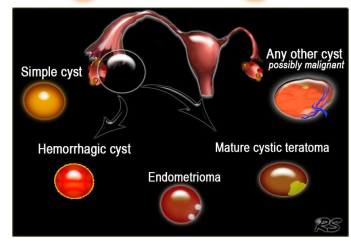
## Differential Diagnosis of a Pelvic Mass



## Differential Diagnosis of an Adnexal Mass

ADOLESCENT	REPRODUCTIVE	PERI-MENOPAUSAL	POST-MENOPAUSAL
Functional Cyst	Functional Cyst	Fibroids	Ovarian Tumor (malignant or benign)
Pregnancy, Sequelae of PID	Pregnancy, Ectopic, Pregnancy	Epithelial ovarian tumor	Functional Cyst
Benign cystic teratoma / Other germ cell tumors	Uterine fibroids,	Functional Cyst	Bowel, malignant tumor or inflammatory
Obstructing vaginal or uterine anomalies	Epithelial ovarian tumor, Mature cystic teratoma		Metastases
Epithelial ovarian tumor	Tubo-ovarian masses (acute/chronic)		

## Benign vs. Malignant?



## Medical & Family History

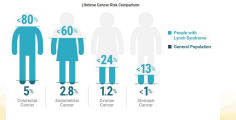
### Risk Factors

- Age
  - Most important **independent** risk factor
  - **Most adnexal masses are benign**
- Family History
  - Most important **personal** risk factor
  - Ovarian/Breast Cancer
    - BRCA 1/2
  - Colon/Endometrial/Ovarian Cancer
    - Lynch Syndrome

Percent of New Cases by Age Group: Ovarian Cancer



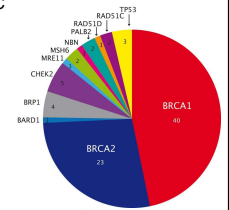
	General Population	BRCA1 Gene Mutation	BRCA2 Gene Mutation
Risk of Ovarian Cancer	2%	60-95%	40-85%
Risk of Breast Cancer	12%	40-85%	10-30%



## Genetic Panel Testing

### Risk Reducing Surgery per NCCN Guidelines

- Other genes associated with increased risk of OC
  - BRIP1
  - RAD51C
  - RAD51D
  - STK11 (non-epithelial OC)



## Medical History

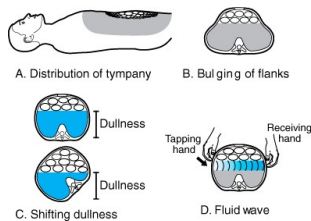
### Narrowing the Differential

- Pre-menopausal
  - Acute onset pelvic pain
    - Hemorrhagic cyst
  - Fevers, vaginal discharge
    - TOA
  - Dysmenorrhea, dyspareunia
    - Endometrioma
  - Abnormal uterine bleeding
    - Estrogen producing tumor
- Post-Menopausal
  - Post-menopausal bleeding
    - Estrogen producing tumor
  - Bloating, early satiety
    - Malignancy

## Physical Exam



## Physical Exam

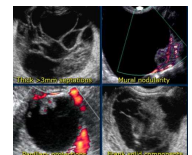


## Imaging

### Pelvic Ultrasound

- **Initial (and often only) imaging needed in evaluation of incidental pelvic mass**

- Size and composition
- Laterality
- Presence of mural nodules, papillary excrescences
- Free fluid in pelvis
- Vascular features



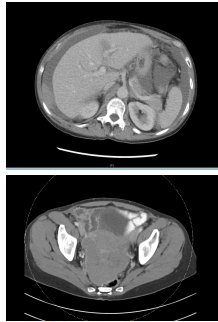
- Widespread availability
- Patient tolerance
- Cost-Effective

**Use with caution when evaluating large pelvic masses**

## Imaging

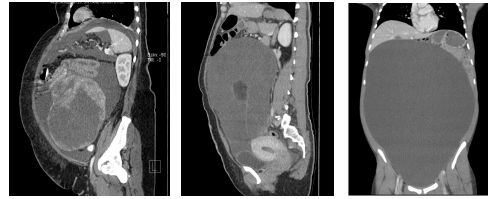
### CT

- Very limited use in characterization/evaluation of pelvic masses
- Best used in assessing for metastatic disease
  - Ascites
  - Omental/Peritoneal Nodularity
  - Retroperitoneal Adenopathy
  - Ureteral Obstruction



## Imaging

### CT



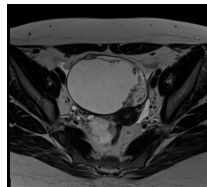
## Imaging

### MRI

- May be better at classifying benign vs. malignant
- Lower detection rate
- Helpful at differentiating origin
  - Fallopian Tube
  - Pedunculated Fibroid
  - Diverticular Abscess

**TABLE 2**  
Validity of Ultrasound, MRI, and PET in Discrimination of Malignant from Benign Ovarian Lesions

	Sensitivity	Specificity	Positive predictive value	Negative predictive value	Accuracy
Ultrasound	92%	46%	23%	98%	60%
MRI	82%	84%	42%	97%	86%
PET	58%	90%	28%	93%	77%



## Laboratory Testing

### Tumor Markers

- CA-125
  - Non-Mucinous Epithelial ovarian cancer (EOC)
  - Elevated only in 50% of early stage EOC
  - Low Sensitivity (61-90%)
- Elevated in non-malignant conditions
  - Low Specificity (71-93%)
- Much more sensitive and specific after menopause
- CEA
- B-HCG

**Table 3. Causes of Elevated Cancer Antigen 125 Levels Not Associated with Ovarian Cancer**

Benign gynecologic causes	Benign nongynecologic causes	Malignancies
Endometriosis, especially endometriomas	Coffee use	Breast cancer
Large ovarian fibroids	Liver cirrhosis with or without ascites	Endometrial cancer
Menorrhagia	Lung disease	Lung cancer
Ovarian fibroma	Density	Pancreatic cancer
Pelvic inflammatory disease	Tuberculosis	Peritoneal implants of nonovarian cancers
Previous hysterectomy		

## Laboratory Testing

### Tumor Markers

**Table 1. Serum Biomarker and Multimodal Test Results Considered Abnormal in Women With Adnexal Masses\***

Test	Premenopausal	Postmenopausal
CA 125	—†	> 35 U/mL
MIA	≥ 5.0	≥ 4.4
ROMA	≥ 1.31	≥ 2.77
RMI	> 200	> 200

MIA – Multivariate Index Assay  
ROMA – Risk of Ovarian Malignancy Algorithm  
RMI – Risk of Malignancy Index

**Table 2. Serum Biomarkers in Ovarian Germ Cell Tumors**

	β-HCG	AFP	LDH	CA 125
Dysgerminoma	+	-	+	-
Endodermal sinus tumor	-	+	+	-
Choriocarcinoma	+	-	-	-
Immature teratoma	-	+	+	+
Embryonal carcinoma	+	+	-	-

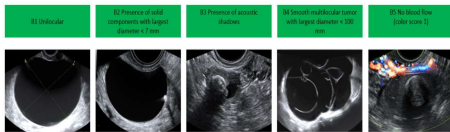
Abbreviations: AFP, alpha-fetoprotein; CA, cancer antigen; LDH, lactate dehydrogenase.

## Imaging Findings

### Benign Vs. Malignant

## Benign Features on Imaging

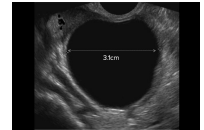
International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) Simple Rules



Tommermaier D, et al. Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2008.

## Benign Features on Imaging

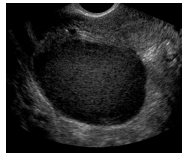
- Simple Cysts
  - Anechoic lesion
  - Unilocular
  - Thin, smooth walls
  - No solid or well vascularized components
  - <0.1% risk of malignancy regardless of menopausal status



Melamed N et al. Risk of malignancy in unilocular, anechoic cystic tumors less than 10 centimeters in diameter. Obstet Gynecol 2003.

## Benign Features on Imaging

- Endometrioma
  - Homogeneous, hypoechoic mass
  - Diffuse low-level echoes
  - No internal flow
  - No enhancing nodules or solid masses
  - 30% with echogenic foci within cyst wall
  - MRI may further confirm diagnosis



Fat-saturation T1-weighted image, high signal intensity. T2-weighted image, blood-degraded content has intermediate to low signal intensity.

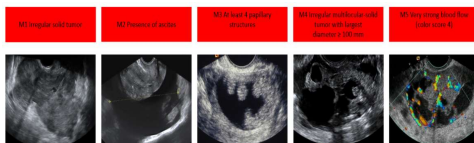
## Benign Features on Imaging

- Mature Cystic Teratoma (Dermoid)
  - Hypoechoic mass with hyperechoic nodule
  - Usually unilocular
  - May contain calcifications
  - Hyperechoic lines (hair)
  - Fat fluid levels
  - MRI may further confirm diagnosis



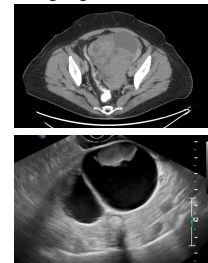
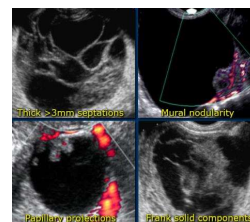
## Malignant Features on Imaging

International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) Simple Rules



Tommermaier D, et al. Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2008.

## Malignant Features on Imaging



# Surgery Vs. Observation



## Surgery vs. Observation

- Lesion morphology
- Risk stratification for malignancy by age, medical and family history
- Risk stratification for peri-operative risks by comorbidities
- Symptomatic vs. Incidental Finding
- Additional Findings
  - Ascites, Adenopathy, Peritoneal Implants

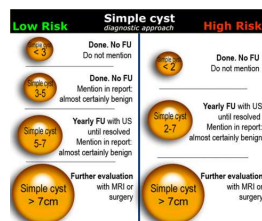
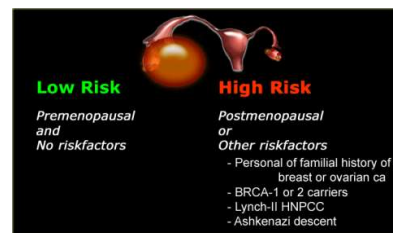
## Observation

How Frequent and for how long?

- No clear guidelines for interval or duration
- Suh-Burgmann et al. (2014)
  - 1363 adnexal masses in women over 50
  - 994 women had at least 1 follow up US
  - 12 cancer/borderline cases; 10 Stage I
  - All malignancies demonstrated growth with 7 months

Suh-Burgmann E, et al. Outcomes from ultrasound follow up of small complex adnexal masses in women over 50. AJOG, 2014.

## Risk Stratification for Malignancy

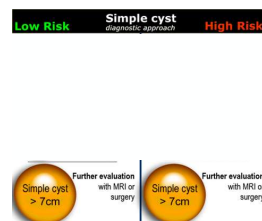


**2763 patients**  
**Unilocular cysts ≤10 cm**

**Table 3. Ovarian Cyst Evolution (N = 3259)**

Cyst evolution	Value, n (%)
Spontaneous resolution	2261 (69.4)
Cyst + septum	337 (10.5)
Persistent cyst	220 (6.8)
Cyst + solid area	168 (5.2)
Solid mass	21 (0.6)
Necrovisceralization of ovary	12 (0.3)
Removed during unrelated surgery	40 (1.2)

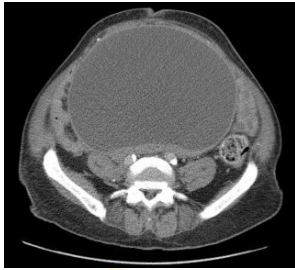
Melamed S, et al. Risk of malignancy in unilocular ovarian cysts versus less than 10 centimeters in diameter. Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2008.



**SAFE TO OPERATE UNLESS**

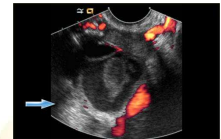
- 1) Unable to do via MIS
- 2) Elevated CA-125 or other concerning findings

Melamed S, et al. Risk of malignancy in unilocular ovarian cysts versus less than 10 centimeters in diameter. Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2008.



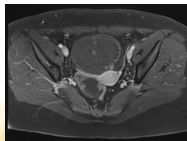
Hemorrhagic cyst diagnostic approach	
Low Risk	High Risk
<p>Done. No FU Not mentioning in report is o.k.</p> <p>Done. No FU Mention in report: almost certainly benign</p> <p>6-12 week FU with US resolved =&gt; done unchanged =&gt; MRI</p>	<p>In early menopause: 6-12 week FU with US resolved =&gt; done unchanged =&gt; MRI</p> <p>In early menopause: Further evaluation with MRI or surgery</p> <p>In late menopause: Further evaluation with MRI or surgery</p>

- Differential Diagnosis
  - Endometrioma
  - Solid Mass (Acute Phase)
  - Neoplasm (clot mimicking solid nodule)
- Most resolve within 8 weeks

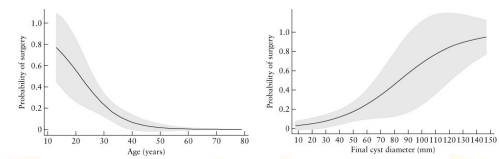


Low Risk	Endometrioma diagnostic approach	High Risk
without echogenic foci may be hemorrhagic cyst	without echogenic foci may be hemorrhagic cyst	without echogenic foci may be hemorrhagic cyst
6-12 week FU with US to rule out hemorrhagic cyst	6-12 week FU with US to rule out hemorrhagic cyst	6-12 week FU with US to rule out hemorrhagic cyst
with echogenic foci likely endometrioma	with echogenic foci likely endometrioma	with echogenic foci likely endometrioma
Yearly FU with US or surgical removal	Yearly FU with US or surgical removal	Yearly FU with US or surgical removal

- SAFE TO OPERATE UNLESS
- 1) Unable to do via MIS
  - 2) Concerning features on imaging
    - 1) Deep endometriosis
    - 2) Concern for malignant transformation
    - 3) Lynch syndrome



Mature cystic teratoma diagnostic approach	
<p>Dermoid &lt; 7 cm</p> <p>6-12 months FU with US until resolved, if not resolved, continue FU (yearly?)</p>	<p>SAFE TO OPERATE UNLESS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Unable to do via MIS</li> </ol>



Which Patient Should I Refer to Gyn Oncology?

## Gyn Oncology Referral Criteria



The American College of  
Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE PHYSICIANS

- Pre-menopausal
  - Very elevated CA-125
- Post-Menopausal
  - CA-125 >35

US Findings suggestive of malignancy

- Ascites
- Nodular or fixed pelvic mass
- Abdominal/Distant Metastasis
- Elevated Score on a Risk Assessment Test
  - RMI
  - MIA
  - ROMA
  - IOTA Scoring Systems



## Risk of Malignancy Index (RMI)

- Combines US Findings with CA-125 and menopausal status
- Direct multiplication of each parameter score
- Simple and cost effective
- Sensitivity: 71-88.5%
- Specificity: 74.3-97%
- PPV: 62%
- NPV: 97%

Table 1. Serum Biomarker and Multimodal Test Results Considered Abnormal in Women With Adnexal Masses\*

Test	Premenopausal	Postmenopausal
CA 125	< 35 U/mL	> 35 U/mL
MIA	≥ 5.0	≥ 4.4
ROMA	≥ 1.31	≥ 2.77
RMI	> 200	> 200

Criteria	Scoring System	Score
Menopausal status	1	A (1 or 3)
premenopausal	3	
postmenopausal		
Ultrasoundic features		
-Multiloculated	No feature = 0 One feature = 1 > 1 feature = 3	B (0,1 or 3)
-Solid areas		
-Bilaterality		
-Ascites		
-Metastasis		
Serum CA 125	Absolute level	C
RISK OF MALIGNANCY INDEX		A x B x C

Jacobs et al Br J Obstet Gynaecol 1990 : 97 : 922-9

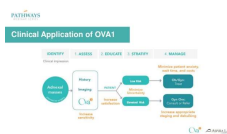
## Risk of Ovarian Malignancy Algorithm (ROMA)

- Incorporates measurements of tumor derived CA-125 and HE4 with menopausal status
- FDA Approved for determining risk of ovarian cancer in women with a pelvic mass
- Conflicting evidence comparing ROMA vs. RMI
- Conflicting evidence comparing HE4/CA-125 or ROMA over CA-125 alone OR over HE4 alone
- Conflicting evidence in effectiveness in pre- vs post-menopausal women

Nelson BM, Lubkin JE. Multimodal assay systems in the differential diagnosis of ovarian cancer. Expert Opin Med Diagn. 2013

## Multivariate Index Assay (MIA)

- FDA Approved for use as an adjunct to physical examination and imaging
- Produces a risk assessment score within the range of 0-10
- Separate cutoff values for premenopausal (5.0) and postmenopausal women (4.4)
- Five biomarker combination
  - CA-125, transthyretin, ApoA1,  $\beta$ -2 microglobulin, transferrin



## Multivariate Index Assay (MIA)

Table 3  
Clinical evaluation of the OVA1 test (reported as 12,13)

	SN	SP	PPV	NPV
ACOG + CA 125	77	88	32	87
ACOG + OVA1	88	55	40	89
Physician	75	70	62	88
BA + OVA1	86	35	40	85
CA 125 alone	89/77	75/68	50/48	88/88
OVA1 alone	89	43	42	87

ACOG: American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' ovarian tumor referral guidelines  
BA: physician assessment

	Overall sensitivity (n = 485)	Overall specificity (n = 485)	Overall accuracy (1000 US females)	CA 125 + OVA1 (n = 485)	CA 125 + P (n = 485)
Prevalence	7.0%	24.4%	15.7%	12.1%	7.5%
True positive	48.0%	45.0%	46.5%	48.0%	48.0%
False positive	10.0%	55.0%	32.5%	10.0%	10.0%
True negative	15.0%	27.0%	20.0%	15.0%	15.0%
False negative	8.0%	19.0%	13.5%	8.0%	8.0%
Overall	80.0%	45.0%	61.0%	80.0%	75.0%
Prevalence	7.0%	24.4%	15.7%	12.1%	7.5%
True positive	48.0%	45.0%	46.5%	48.0%	48.0%
False positive	10.0%	55.0%	32.5%	10.0%	10.0%
True negative	15.0%	27.0%	20.0%	15.0%	15.0%
False negative	8.0%	19.0%	13.5%	8.0%	8.0%
Overall	80.0%	45.0%	61.0%	80.0%	75.0%
Prevalence	7.0%	24.4%	15.7%	12.1%	7.5%
True positive	48.0%	45.0%	46.5%	48.0%	48.0%
False positive	10.0%	55.0%	32.5%	10.0%	10.0%
True negative	15.0%	27.0%	20.0%	15.0%	15.0%
False negative	8.0%	19.0%	13.5%	8.0%	8.0%
Overall	80.0%	45.0%	61.0%	80.0%	75.0%

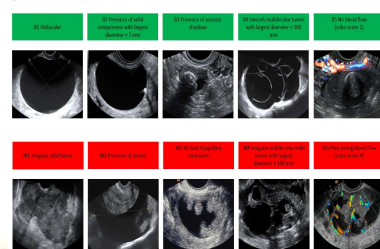
\* High risk overall premenopausal subjects (CA 125 + OVA1), premenopausal subjects (CA 125 + P)  
\* High risk overall postmenopausal subjects (CA 125 + OVA1), postmenopausal subjects (CA 125 + P)

### 1. The original Simple Rules (2008)

The Simple Rules are a preoperative classification system for ovarian tumors, consisting of five features typical for benign tumors (B features) and five features typical for malignant tumors (M features) (see Figure 1). The Simple Rules can be used to improve preoperative classification of ovarian tumors and to guide management decisions. Benign, preoperative, and malignant tumors are considered to require surgery based on either of the B- and M-features that apply; tumors are classified as benign, indeterminate or malignant.

\* Benign: Only B features apply  
\* Indeterminate: Only M features apply  
\* Malignant: No B features apply, or M-features B-features apply

Figure 1. The 10 features used for Simple Rules



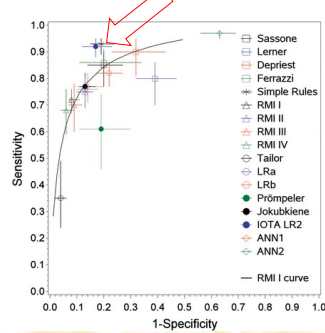
## IOTA LR2 Risk Model



- Six predictors
  - Age + Five US Variables
    - Maximal diameter of largest solid component
    - Irregular internal cyst walls
    - Presence of papillary projections with flow
    - Acoustic shadows
    - Ascites
- Patients selected for expectant management were excluded
- Model appears to underestimate the risk of malignancy

## IOTA Models

- IOTA Simple Rules
  - Sensitivity: 93%
  - Specificity: 83%
- IOTA LR2
  - Sensitivity: 92%
  - Specificity: 83%



Kaplan J, et al. Pre-surgical diagnosis of adnexal tumours using mathematical models and scoring systems: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Hum Reprod Update* 2014.

[www.gin-onc-calculators.com/ovarian.php](http://www.gin-onc-calculators.com/ovarian.php) ([gin-onc-calculators.com](http://gin-onc-calculators.com))

## Adnexal Mass Risk Prediction Models

Home  
RMI - risk of malignancy index  
IOTA models  
Ultrasound score by Sassone and Pelvic Mass Score  
MLRA Index  
Morphological score and Berlanda index  
ROMA - risk of malignancy algorithm  
Gyn Onc Model  
Contact

### Welcome

We invite healthcare professionals to use diagnostic tools for a preoperative adnexal mass diagnosis. It is essential to perform possibly the most accurate diagnosis in order to refer the patient to the adequate centers for surgery. The most important is to filter patients with suspected ovarian malignancy and offer them a treatment in an oncology centers.

There are few indices that were created originally by different authors, published in core clinical journals and used here, on this web page, with authors' permission. The reference is provided by each of the indices. The web page and presented calculators should be considered as an additional diagnostic tool, and cannot replace a comprehensive clinical examination.

If you were interested in more details about indices for ovarian tumor evaluation, please read the review article "Usefulness of Diagnostic Indices Comprising Clinical, Sonographic, and Biomarker Data for Discriminating Benign From Malignant Ovarian Masses". *Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine* 2015 34:207-217; doi:10.7863/ultra.34.2.207.

Maciej Stukan, MD, PhD

## Adnexal Mass Risk Prediction Models

Home  
RMI - risk of malignancy index  
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Gyn Onc Model  
Contact

### IOTA models - LR1 and LR2<sup>(1,2)</sup>

You can fill out only the first 6 variables or all 12

Age of the patient (years)

Presence of ascites

Presence of blood flow within a papillary projection

Largest diameter of the solid component (in mm)

Irregular internal cyst wall

Presence of acoustic shadows

Personal history of ovarian cancer

Current hormonal therapy

Largest diameter of the lesion (in mm)

Presence of pain during the examination

Presence of a purely solid tumor

Color score

Link to IOTA home page and software: <http://www.esat.kuleuven.be/~sistawww/biomed/sr/risk/>

References:  
1. Timmerman D, Van Calster B, Testa AC et al. Ovarian cancer prediction in adnexal masses using ultrasound-based logistic regression models: a temporal and external validation study by the OVA group. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2016; 36:220-234.  
2. Timmerman DV, L. Bouma, T.H. Collis, W.P. Van der Velden, J. Temp, definitions and measurements to describe the sonographic features of adnexal tumors: a consensus opinion from the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) group. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2000; 16: 500-506

<https://homes.esat.kuleuven.be/~sistawww/biomed/sr/risk/>

## Simple Rules Risk Calculator (SRRisk)

### SELECT PARAMETERS

Thank you to: Timmerman D et al. High ultrasound-based risk for the diagnosis of ovarian cancer (Thematic Ovarian Cancer 2015) 34:207-217.

Simple rules risk calculator: Timmerman D, Van Calster B, et al. Predicting the risk of malignancy in adnexal masses based on the Simple Rules from the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis group. *Int J Gynecol Cancer* 2016; 26:481-491.

Parameter	Value
1. Unilateral examination at imaging center	<input type="text"/>
2. Bilateral examination at imaging center	<input type="text"/>
3. Unilateral cyst	<input type="text"/>
4. Presence of solid components with max diam < 1 cm	<input type="text"/>
5. Acoustic shadows	<input type="text"/>
6. Smooth multilocular mass with max diam < 100 mm	<input type="text"/>
7. No blood flow (color score 0)	<input type="text"/>
8. Simple (suspicious of malignant mass)	<input type="text"/>
9. Irregular solid mass	<input type="text"/>
10. Acoustic	<input type="text"/>
11. At least five papillary structures	<input type="text"/>
12. Simple multilocular solid mass with max diam > 100 mm	<input type="text"/>
13. Very strong blood flow (color score 4)	<input type="text"/>

Calculate

Questions?

Northwestern  
Medicine

AGL 2022  
15th GLOBAL CONGRESS ON MIGS  
December 1-4, 2022 | Aurora, CO | [congress.aagl.org](http://congress.aagl.org)

# DEBATE Uterine Manipulator in Endometrial Cancer Surgery: PRO

Emma Barber, MD, MS  
Northwestern University



## Disclosure

- I have the following financial relationships:
  - Research Grants to My Institution: Eli Lilly
  - Advisory Board: Merck



## Objectives

- Describe the benefits and potential risks of uterine manipulator use in patients undergoing MIS for endometrial cancer

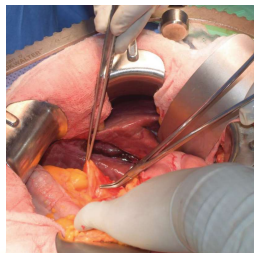


## Minimally Invasive Surgery Has Revolutionized Endometrial Cancer Care



## Rationale for the Uterine Manipulator

- Tension. Counter Tension.
- Retraction and Exposure.



## Uterine Manipulator Use is Prevalent

- A cross-sectional survey was conducted to the Society of Gynecologic Oncology.
- 220 U.S. gynecologic oncologists practicing minimally invasive hysterectomy for endometrial cancer.
- 90.1% used a uterine manipulator during endometrial cancer surgery.**
- In France, 165 gynecologic oncologists were surveyed.
- Routine use of uterine manipulator was 42.7%.

## MIS including TLH is Safe

- LAP2 Trial
  - 2616 women with stage I to IIA EMC
  - Technique for LAVH, TLH or robotics not specified
  - No difference in detection of advanced disease
  - Improved short term postoperative outcomes
  - No difference in DFS or OS
- LACE trial
  - 760 women with stage I EMC
  - McCartney Tube
  - No difference in recurrence (7.9% TAH) and (8.1% TLH)



## LACC Trial: Were Manipulators to Blame?

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

### Minimally Invasive versus Abdominal Radical Hysterectomy for Cervical Cancer

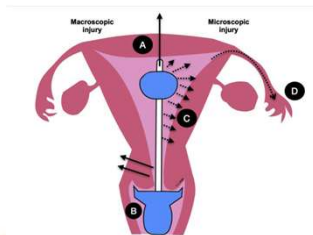
Pedro T. Ramirez, M.D., Michael Frumovitz, M.D., Rene Porcu, M.D., Aldo Lopez, M.D., Marcelo Vieira, M.D., Reitan Ribeiro, M.D., Alessandro Buda, M.D., Xiaojian Yan, M.D., Yao Shuzhong, M.D., Naem Chetty, M.D., David Isha, M.D., Mariano Tamura, M.D., et al.

- Recurrence-free survival at 5 years was 80% in the no intra-uterine manipulator group and 94% in the intra-uterine manipulator group.
- Adjusted analysis, use of an intra-uterine manipulator was not associated with worse recurrence-free survival (HR 0.4, 95% CI 0.2 to 1.0,  $p=0.05$ ).

Nica A, Kim SR, Gien LT, et al

Survival after minimally invasive surgery in early cervical cancer: is the intra-uterine manipulator to blame? *International Journal of Gynecologic Cancer* 2020;30:1864-1870.

## Why Would Manipulators Worsen Survival?



## Is Hysteroscopy Unsafe?

- All the same principles apply as a uterine manipulator.
- Results: A total of 1731 women from 15 centers were included: 1044 in the hysteroscopy group and 687 in the Pipelle sampling group. 225 patients relapsed during the 10 year follow-up period: 139 (13.3%) in the hysteroscopy group and 86 (12.4%) in the Pipelle sampling group. There is no evidence of an association between the use of hysteroscopy as a diagnostic method and relapse rate (HR 1.24, 95% CI 0.92 to 1.66;  $p=0.16$ ), lower disease-free survival (HR 1.23, 95% CI 0.92 to 1.66;  $p=0.15$ ), or overall survival (HR 0.95, 95% CI 0.70 to 1.29;  $p=0.76$ ).
- Hysteroscopy is widely accepted as a diagnostic technique for endometrial cancer with no evidence of inferior outcomes.

Quintana-Bertá R, Padilla-Isern P, Gil-Moreno A, Oliver-Pérez R, Coronado PI, Martín-Salamanca MB, Pantaja-Garrido M, Lorenzo C, Casoria E, Gilabert-Estelles J, Sánchez L, Roldán-Rivas F, Díaz-Fejóo B, Rodríguez-Hernández JR, Maroto-Samartín I, Manóvilas JC, Cifaldi A, Dominguez S. Oncological safety of hysteroscopy in endometrial cancer. *Int J Gynecol Cancer*. 2022 Jul 26;32(7):1035-1043. doi: 10.1136/igcc-2022-003586. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35882425.

## Retrospective Studies

The International Journal of Medical Robotics and Computer Assisted Surgery

ORIGINAL ARTICLE Full Access

### Does the use of a uterine manipulator in robotic surgery for early-stage endometrial cancer affect oncological outcomes?

Hiroe Ito, Tetsuya Moritake, Keiichi Isaka

- Eighty six robotic surgeries and sixty seven open surgeries were performed for early-stage endometrial cancer.
- Recurrence 5.8% MIS and 9.0% Open
- Conclusions: The use of a uterine manipulator during robotic surgery for early-stage endometrial cancer did not influence recurrence or survival.

Ito H, Moritake T, Isaka K. Does the use of a uterine manipulator in robotic surgery for early-stage endometrial cancer affect oncological outcomes? *Int J Med Robot*. 2022 Jul 20;24(43). doi: 10.1002/rcc.2443. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35856237.





# A Multicentric Randomized Trial to Evaluate the Role of Uterine Manipulator on Laparoscopic/Robotic Hysterectomy for the Treatment of Early-Stage Endometrial Cancer: The ROMANHY Trial



Salvatore Gualdi<sup>1,2</sup>, Emanuele Perrone<sup>3</sup>, Capella Fedele<sup>4</sup>, Stefano Ciani<sup>5</sup>, Tina Pascucci<sup>6</sup>, Vito Chiantera<sup>7</sup>, Stefano Uccella<sup>8</sup>, Alberto Ercoli<sup>9</sup>, Giuseppe Vizzini<sup>10</sup>, Anna Esposito<sup>11</sup>, Valerio Gagliardi<sup>12</sup>, Francesco Giannone<sup>13</sup>, Barbara Costantini<sup>14</sup>, Stefano Piantoni<sup>15</sup>, Giorgio Montemurlo<sup>16</sup>, Andrea Rinaldi<sup>17</sup>, Luigi Carlo Tunesi<sup>18</sup>, Vito Andrea Caporaso<sup>19</sup>, Francesco Farfani<sup>20</sup> and Giovanni Scambia<sup>21</sup>

- 154 patients (76 in arm A and 78 in arm B)
- No differences were detected in terms of overall survival and disease-free survival ( $p=0.996$  and  $p=0.480$ , respectively). Similarly, no differences were recorded in the number of recurrences, 6 (7.9%) in arm A and 4 (5.2%) in arm B ( $p=0.486$ ).
- The use of the uterine manipulator had no impact on DFS both at univariable and multivariable analyses.

Gueli Alletti S, Perrone E, Fedele C, Ciani S, Pascucci T, Chiantera V, Uccella S, Ercoli A, Vizzini G, Gagliardi A, Gallotta V, Costantino F, Costantini B, Restaino S, Montemurlo G, Rinaldi A, Tunesi LC, Caporaso VA, Farfani F, Scambia G. A Multicentric Randomized Trial to Evaluate the Role of Uterine Manipulator on Laparoscopic/Robotic Hysterectomy for the Treatment of Early-Stage Endometrial Cancer: The ROMANHY Trial. *Front Oncol*. 2021 Sep 10;11:720894. doi: 10.3389/fonc.2021.720894. PMID: 34568050; PMCID: PMC8461311.

Randomized Controlled Trial | Int J Gynecol Cancer. 2013 Feb;23(2):372-9. doi: 10.1097/GG.0b013e3182788485.

## Effects of uterine manipulation on surgical outcomes in laparoscopic management of endometrial cancer: a prospective randomized clinical trial

Maria Lee<sup>1</sup>, Young Tae Kim, Sang Wun Kim, Sunghoon Kim, Jae Hoon Kim, Eun Ji Nam

- 110 patients with clinical stage I endometrial cancer were randomly assigned for laparoscopic staging surgery with (group A, 55) or without (group B, 55) the use of a uterine manipulator (RUMI), between June 2009 and June 2011.
- Group A had a similar incidence of lymphovascular space invasion compared with group B (12.7% vs 9.1%, respectively;  $P = 0.76$ ).
- During the median follow-up of 19 months, 6 patients had tumor recurrence without significant difference between the groups.

Lee M, Kim YT, Kim SW, Kim S, Kim JH, Nam EJ. Effects of uterine manipulation on surgical outcomes in laparoscopic management of endometrial cancer: a prospective randomized clinical trial. *Int J Gynecol Cancer*. 2013 Feb;23(2):372-9. doi: 10.1097/GG.0b013e3182788485. PMID: 23266600.

## Conclusions

- Data on benefits of uterine manipulator are lacking
- >90% of practicing SGO members responding to a survey use a uterine manipulator for endometrial cancer
- Preponderance of available data (including 2 prospective RCTs) suggests uterine manipulator is safe in endometrial cancer surgery



## References

- Quintana-Bertó R, Padilla-Izerte P, Gil-Moreno A, Oliver-Pérez R, Coronado PI, Martín-Salamanca ML, Pantoja-Garrido M, Lorenzo C, Casoria E, Gilabert-Estelós J, Sánchez L, Roldán-Rivas F, Díaz-Felipe B, Rodríguez-Hernández JR, Marcos-Sanmartín I, Muncuabaz JC, Calzada A, Domingo S. Oncological safety of hysterectomy in endometrial cancer. *Int J Gynecol Cancer*. 2022 Jul 26;32(2):00586. doi: 10.1136/ijgc-2022-00586. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 3582425.
- Nica A, Kim SR, Gien LT, et al. Survival after minimally invasive surgery in early cervical cancer: is the intra-uterine manipulator to blame? *International Journal of Gynecologic Cancer*. 2020;30:1864-1870.
- Camille Sallee, Aymeline Lacorre, France Despoux, Lobna Ouldamer, Cyrille Huchon, Martin Koskas, Jean-Marc Classe, Frédéric Guyon, François Marguerite, Emile Raymond, Tristan Gauthier. Use of uterine manipulator in endometrial cancer: A French survey from Francogyn group. *European Journal of Surgical Oncology*. Volume 48, Issue 6, 2022. Pages 1395-1399. ISSN 0748-7983. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejso.2022.05.007>.
- Ido Laskov. The Impact of Intra-Uterine Manipulators on Outcome and Recurrence Patterns of Endometrial Cancer Patients Undergoing Minimally Invasive Surgery. <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-538902/v1>.
- Chang G, Jooja NO, Caseldak KM, Shahad MM, Roman LD, Matsue K. Intraoperative tumor spill during minimally invasive hysterectomy for endometrial cancer: A survey study on experience and practice. *Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol*. 2021 Dec;267:256-261. doi: 10.1016/j.ejogb.2021.11.020. Epub 2021 Nov 16. PMID: 34837855.



## UTERINE MANIPULATOR USE IN ENDOMETRIAL CANCER SURGERY

**AGAINST**

(RISKS AND SOME CONFLICTING NEW DATA)

DR FERNANDO HEREDIA M. – GYNECOLOGIC ONCOLOGIST  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR - UNIVERSIDAD DE CONCEPCION, CHILE



## DISCLOSURES

SPEAKER FOR ASTRA ZENECA  
SPEAKER AND CONSULTANT FOR JOHNSON & JOHNSON

drheredia@gmail.com  
herediaf@gmail.com

### TODAY I WILL DISCUSS

1. Rationale of uterine manipulation
2. Theoretical risks of uterine manipulation in endometrial cancer
3. Emerging new evidence

**THEN YOU CHOOSE**



THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

### REVIEW ARTICLE

Dan L. Longo, M.D., Editor

## Endometrial Cancer

Karen H. Lu, M.D., and Russell R. Broaddus, M.D., Ph.D.  
N ENGL J MED 383;21 NEJM.ORG NOVEMBER 19, 2020

significant coexisting conditions. For most women with endometrial cancer, the current surgical approach includes laparoscopic or robotic removal of the uterus, cervix, fallopian tubes, and ovaries and a sentinel lymph-node evaluation. Two randomized surgical trials showed that a minimally invasive approach, as compared with the traditional open abdominal approach, was associated with significantly lower rates of postoperative complications and an improved short-term quality of life.<sup>1,16</sup> Long-term follow-up of patients in both studies, however, showed no significant difference in overall survival according to the initial surgical approach.<sup>15,16</sup>



## I.- RATIONALE OF UTERINE MANIPULATION

- Uterine manipulator helps!
  - Pushing uterus:
    - straighten uterine.
    - facilitates vesicouterine plane dissection.
  - Lateralizing uterus:
    - Giving us a better angle to attack uterine vessels.
    - Furtherly open pelvic avascular spaces.
    - Delineate vaginal fornix for colpotomy.
- I love it!
- **BUT:** can we do a hysterectomy without a uterine Manipulator?



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect  
**European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Biology**

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ejogrb)

Full length article

**Total laparoscopic hysterectomy without uterine manipulator. A retrospective study of 1023 cases**

Dimitrios Zygoouris<sup>a,\*</sup>, Nektarios Chalvatzas<sup>a</sup>, Antonios Gkoutzioulis<sup>a</sup>, Georgios Anastasiou<sup>a</sup>, Andreas Kavallaris<sup>b,†</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Internally Medicine (Gynecology, St. Mary's Hospital), Paphos, Cyprus

<sup>b</sup>Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Mother and Child Medical Center, Nicosia, Cyprus
























- 10 years
- 1023 patients
- 1 team (2 centers)
- Benign indications



Surgical time	78 (43-168 min)
Hysterectomy alone	75 (43-145 min)
Hysterectomy + Adnexectomy	83 (45-168 min)
Estimated Blood loss	59 (20-260 ml)
Uterine weight	255 (40-1510 gr)
Conversion	0
Transfusion	14
Ureteral injury	1
Vesical injury	3
Intestinal injury	5
Vaginal injury	18 (1.8%)

European Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Reproductive Biology 253 (2020) 254–258

**Conclusion** The use of uterine manipulators is well established and it is clear that uterine manipulators offer the easiest way to handle the uterus during surgery. However, detailed information regarding efficacy and safety is scarce. Clinical evidence substantiating the assumed

		Stage or type of analysis	Observations			Results	Conclusions	
	1	Phase contrast	Phase contrast	Phase contrast	Phase contrast	Transferring assembly	Results	
	2	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	3	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	4	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	5	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	6	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	7	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	8	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	9	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	10	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	11	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	12	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	13	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
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	15	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	16	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	17	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
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	24	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	25	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	26	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	27	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	28	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
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	30	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
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	37	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	38	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	39	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	40	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	41	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	42	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	43	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	44	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	45	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM
	46	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM	SEM

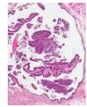
Arch Gynecol Obstet Received: 23 October 2014 / Accepted: 20 April 2015

- Need of Morcelation (Not related to Manipulator)

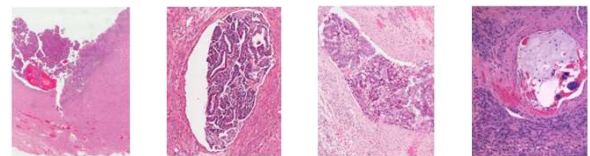


It has also to be considered that the vast majority of EC patients underwent a hysteroscopic assessment as a milestone of their preoperative work-up. It is now widely accepted that this procedure is not burdened by an increased risk of positive peritoneal cytology thus not requiring any specific countermeasures to avoid retrograde tubal flow.

1998		2008	
Stage	Anatomic involvement	Stage	Description
Stage I	Tumor confined to the uterine corpus	IA	Tumor confined to uterus, <40% myometrial invasion
Stage II	>40% myometrial invasion	IB	Tumor confined to uterus, >40% myometrial invasion
Stage III	>40% myometrial invasion	IIA	Tumor invasion into cervix or vagina
Stage III	Cervical involvement	IIB	Cervical invasion
Stage IV	Endometrial glandular involvement	IVa	Tumor invasion into bladder or rectum
Stage IV	Cervical involvement	IVb	Vaginal or para-aortic lymph node involvement
Stage IV	Positive peritoneal cytology and/or distant invasion into uterine corpus and/or adnexal involvement	IVC	Positive peritoneal cytology
Stage IV	Distant involvement	IVD	Tumor invasion into bladder or bowel invasion
Stage IV	Metastases to pelvic and/or pelvic lymph nodes	IVA	Distant recurrence (not including distant metastases) or vaginal lymph node involvement



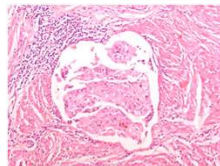
It is important, therefore, that pathologists be familiar with the spectrum of artifacts encountered with these procedures to minimize misinterpretation. However, interobserver variability in the assessment of LVI, cell type, and grade is a reality in pathology, which is an interpretive discipline.



## ESMO-ESGO-ESTRO Consensus Conference on Endometrial Cancer Diagnosis, Treatment and Follow-up

Nicoletta Colombo,\* Carlen Creutzberg,† Frederic Amant,‡ Tjalling Bosse,§ Antonio González-Martín,|| Jonathan Ledermann,¶ Christian Marth,‡ Remi Nout,\*\* Denis Querles,†† Mansoor Raza Mirza,‡‡ Cristina Sessa,§§ and the ESMO-ESGO-ESTRO Endometrial Consensus Conference Working Group

- LVS1 positive status was introduced in the ESGO guidelines as a recommendation for Lymphadenectomy, even in the absence of other well known risk factors.
- It also "upgraded" patients with low risk tumors to intermediate-high risk.
- If not correctly diagnosed it could prompt adjuvant treatment for patients with no "real indication"...



International Journal of Gynecological Cancer • Volume 26, Number 1, January 2016

## Intrauterine Manipulator Use During Minimally Invasive Hysterectomy and Risk of Lymphovascular Space Invasion in Endometrial Cancer

Hiroko Machida, MD,\*† Marianne S. Hom, MD,\* Crystal L. Adams, MD,\* Sarah E. Eckhardt, MD,\* Jocelyn Garcia-Sayre, MD,\* Mikio Mikami, MD, PhD,† and Koji Matsuo, MD, PhD\*‡

- Retrospective case-control study (419/194 patients) + systematic review (1371/1246 patients).
- Stages I-IV between 2008 – 2015
- Compared TAH/BSO v/s TLH/BSO with UM (Why not TLH/BSO with and without UM???)

"IUM use during TLH for Endometrial Cancer is not associated with increased frequency of LVS1"

Insufficient evidence evaluating LVS1 either caused by IUM insertion or originally present in the endometrium...this makes results difficult to interpret for proper analysis.....concerns regarding the potential increased risk of disease spread with UM use remain unsettled.

## UTERINE MANIPULATORS AND LVS1 (ONLY PROSPECTIVE)

A Multicentric Randomized Trial to Evaluate the Role of Uterine Manipulator on Laparoscopic/Robotic Hysterectomy for the Treatment of Early-Stage Endometrial Cancer: The ROMANHY Trial

Salvatore Gudi Alletti<sup>1,2</sup>, Emanuele Perrone<sup>1</sup>, Camilla Podda<sup>1</sup>, Stefano Ciano<sup>1</sup>, Tina Pascale<sup>1</sup>, Vito Chiantera<sup>1</sup>, Stefano Uccella<sup>1</sup>, Alfredo Ermi<sup>1</sup>, Giuseppe Vignoli<sup>1,2</sup>, Anna Pagnoli<sup>1,2</sup>, Valerio Galotta<sup>1,2</sup>, Francesco Conterno<sup>1</sup>, Barbara Costantini<sup>1,2</sup>, Stefano Rinaldi<sup>1</sup>, Giorgio Montemurro<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Rinaldi<sup>1</sup>, Luigi Carlo Torrisi<sup>1</sup>, Vito Andrea Caputo<sup>1,2</sup>, Francesco Panfili<sup>1,2</sup> and Giovanni Scambia<sup>1,2</sup>

- Italian Multicentric Prospective Randomized Trial.
- 154 patients, early stage, G1-G2 at preop evaluation.
- Only Clermont-Ferrand Uterine Manipulator.
- Designed to assess the impact of UM in LVS1 presence in early stage Endometrial Cancer...
- Conclusion: it does not affect LVS1 status.
- Suggests same Oncological outcomes...not designed for that...

frontiers  
in Oncology

September 2021 | Volume 11 | Article 720894

## 3.- PERFORATION RISK

### Intrauterine Manipulator Use During Minimally Invasive Hysterectomy and Risk of Lymphovascular Space Invasion in Endometrial Cancer

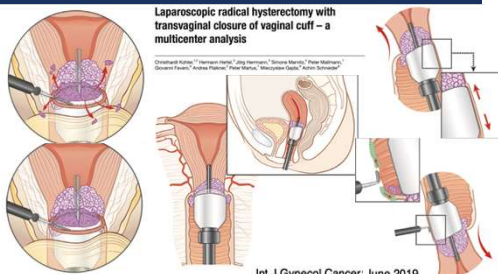
Hiroko Machida, MD,\*† Marianne S. Hom, MD,\* Crystal L. Adams, MD,\* Sarah E. Eckhardt, MD,\* Jocelyn Garcia-Sayre, MD,\* Mikio Mikami, MD, PhD,† and Koji Matsuo, MD, PhD\*‡

- Rarely reported....
- 0.4 - 1% cases in this review article....
- More in atrophic uterus, small cervix, prior c-sections/isthmocoles, etc

## 4.- TO THE VAGINA

Laparoscopic radical hysterectomy with transvaginal closure of vaginal cuff – a multicenter analysis

- "Squeeze" effect
- Need of morcellation + mucosal disruption



Int J Gynecol Cancer June 2019

WHERE IS THE  
**EVIDENCE?**

**REVIEW ARTICLE** | VOLUME 46, ISSUE 7, P1225-1232, JULY 01, 2020

## The effects of uterine manipulators in minimally invasive hysterectomy for endometrial cancer: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Yifan Meng · Yan Lu · Shitong Lin · ... · Ting Peng · Lingli Gui · ... · Peng Wu · ... · Show all authors

- Systematic review and metaanalysis.
- 11 studies (3 Prospective – 7 retrospective - 1 RCT)

**"No significant difference in timing of manipulator insertion and manipulator use for positive peritoneal cytology, LVSI, or recurrence rate."**

- Peritoneal washing and timing of insertion : 602 patients (largest 55 patients, 40% TLH/BSO).
- LVSI and manipulator use: 961 patients (largest 77 patients - 18 Robotic TLH/BSO/PLND with UM v/s 59 without UM).
- Recurrence rate/OS: 1171 patients. Only 3 studies that allocated lots of small studies....

**The Effect of a Uterine Manipulator on the Recurrence and Mortality of Endometrial Cancer: A Multi-Centric Study by the Italian Society of Gynecological Endoscopy**

Stefano Uccella, MD, PhD, Matteo Bonzini, MD, Mario Malzoni, MD, Francesco Fanfani, MD, Stefano Palomba, MD, Giovanni Aletti, MD, Giacomo Corrado, MD, Marcello Ceccaroni, MD, Renato Seracchioli, MD, Fevzi Shakir, MD, Annamaria Ferrero, MD, Roberto Berretta, MD, Raffaele Tinelli, MD, Enrico Vizza, MD, Giovanni Roviglione, MD, Lucia Casarella, MD, Eugenio Volpi, MD, Ettore Cicinelli, MD, Giovanni Scambia, MD, Fabio Ghezzi, MD

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2017 Jun;216(6):592.e1-592.e11.

- Objective : Study risk and site of recurrence, OS, DFS after TLH with and without UM. (No robot here...)
- Retrospective, non-randomized, Cohort (2000-2013) multicentric (7 Italian centers) -
- 951 patients (579 with UM / 372 without) – Also analyze type of manipulator.
- Excluded > prep Stage I and follow up < 12 months.
- Median follow up 46 months – Recurrence 13.5% with UM / 11.6% without UM.
- UM (and type of UM) was not associated with higher risk of recurrence.
- Similar DFS, Disease specific survival, and OS.

13.5%???? Isn't it a Little high? Lots of Type 2 tumors

**Review Article on Endometrial Cancer**

## Role of uterine manipulator during laparoscopic endometrial cancer treatment

Vito Andrea Capozzi<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Rosati<sup>2</sup>, Stefano Uccella<sup>3</sup>, Gaetano Riemma<sup>4</sup>, Mattia Tarascio<sup>5</sup>, Marco Torella<sup>6</sup>, Pasquale De Francisicis<sup>7</sup>, Nicola Colacurci<sup>8</sup>, Stefano Cianci<sup>9</sup>

The most recent studies have highlighted the safety of the uterine manipulator in the early-stage EC laparoscopic treatment. **Well, that's reassuring....**

To date, all types of manipulators are considered to be fairly safe (6) as application should be tailored according to tumor dimension and grade of myometrial infiltration. We assume that for large lesions with suspected infiltration up to the serosal layer the positioning of UM could be avoided because of the higher risk of uterine perforation.

The LVSI positivity should be pathologically standardized and the "pseudo-LVSI invasion" must be considered in all cases where the uterine manipulator is placed.

Author, years	Design	Cases	Stage	Main results
Guarnerio, 2016	Retrospective cohort	114	I-II	Laparoscopic approach to early-stage EC using UM as safe and effective as the laparotomy approach.
Freire, 2010	Retrospective cohort	164	NA	Presence of UM and TLH in EC patients is not an artifact of UM.
Lee, 2010	Randomized clinical trial	110	IA	UM did not increase rate of positive peritoneal cytology or lymphovascular space invasion.
Maurice, 2016	Retrospective cohort	208	I-IV	UM use during laparoscopic hysterectomy for EC is not associated with increased frequency of RFS.
Seif, 2016	Retrospective cohort	104	I-II	The use of a UM does not appear to increase the rate of postoperative UM invasion.
Frank, 2016	Retrospective cohort	110	I-II	UM during laparoscopic hysterectomy does not affect the risk of recurrence and has no impact on disease-specific or overall survival and on the rate of recurrence in women affected by EC.
Uccella, 2017	Multi-center retrospective cohort	951	I-III	UM for laparoscopic hysterectomy does not affect the risk of recurrence and has no impact on disease-specific or overall survival and on the rate of recurrence in women affected by EC.
Zhang, 2014	Retrospective cohort	408	I-III	UM for EC is not associated with LVSI or malignant cytology.
Almouzni, 2009	Retrospective cohort	40	I-II	Laparoscopic hysterectomy is associated with a higher rate of positive peritoneal cytology, lymphovascular space invasion, and presence of distant metastases. However, the clinical effect of these findings on survival is unclear.
Fabiani, 2010	Retrospective cohort	87	I-II	The clinical significance of apparent but capsule space involvement does not appear to be affected by UM.
Fanfrani, 2011	Retrospective cohort	314	NA	Systematic use of UM does not represent a bias for current evaluation of EC therapies.

Trans Cancer Res 2020;9(12):7759-7766

**Impact of uterine manipulator on oncological outcome in endometrial cancer surgery**

Mr. Pablo PADILLA-ISERTE, PhD, Mr. Victor LAGO, MD, Ms. Carmen TAUSTE, PhD, Ms. Berta DIAZ-FELUJO, PhD, Mr. Antonio GIL-MORENO, PhD, Ms. Reyes OLIVER, PhD, Mr. Pluvio CORONADO, PhD, Ms. Maria Belén MARTÍN-SALAMANCA, PhD, Mr. Manuel PANTOUJA-GARRIDO, PhD, Ms. Josefina MARCOS-SANMARTÍN, MD, Mr. Juan GILBERT-ESTELLES, PhD, Ms. Cristina LORENZO, MD, Mr. Eduardo CAZORLA, PhD, Mr. Fernando ROLDAN-RIVAS, MD, Mr. José Ramón RODRIGUEZ-HERNÁNDEZ, MD, Ms. Lourdes SÁNCHEZ, MD, Mr. Juan Carlos MURUZÁBAL, PhD, Mr. David HERVAS, PhD, Mr. Santiago DOMINGO, PhD

- Retrospective multicenter study: 2661 patients, 15 centers (1756 w/manip v/s 905 without UM).
- Type of UM, surgical staging, histology, LVSI, FIGO stage, adjuvant treatment, recurrence and pattern were analyzed. Both groups balanced.
- 1st objective: observe recurrence rate; 2nd objective: Observe DFS, OS, pattern of recurrence.
- Recurrence rate: With manipulator: 11.69% Without manipulator: 7.4% (p<0.001)

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2021 Jan;224(1):65.e1-65.e11

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- Results:
  - Higher recurrence risk HR 2.31; 95%CI, 1.27-4.20 (p=0.006)
  - Lower DFS for uterus confined tumors (Stage I-II) HR 1.74; 95%CI, 0.57-0.97 (p=0.027)
  - Higher risk of Death from Disease (Stage I-II) HR 1.74; 95%CI, 1.07-2.83 (p=0.63)
  - No difference in pattern of recurrence between both groups.

Am J Obstet Gynecol. 2021 Jan;224(1):65.e1-65.e11

**MOST INTERESTING OUTCOME OF THIS STUDY**

**Disease-free Survival FIGO I-II**

**Type of manipulator**

**Disease-free Survival FIGO III**

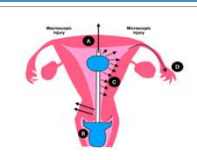
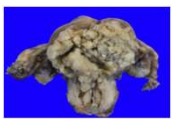
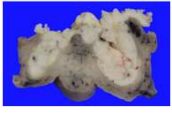
Significant WORSE ONCOLOGICAL OUTCOMES in uterus-confined tumors, no effect in Stage III  
UM breaks the uterine-confined disease paradigm of a "Good prognosis disease"...



### BUT HOW CAN THIS BE POSSIBLE?





Possible mechanisms:

- Macroscopic injury (atrophic uterus):
  - During insertion (under reported!!!)
  - Forced lateral movements in weak myometrium
- Microscopic:
  - Increase in endometrial pressure
  - Balloon
  - Pushing
  - Colpotomy

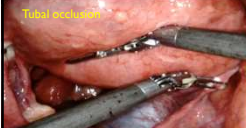
### SO THEN, WHAT CAN WE DO?

- First, study the case.
- Nowadays there is no dogma, but there are concerning new data.
- USE YOUR KNOWLEDGE....BE SMART

**Four protective maneuvers in minimal invasive surgery of endometrial cancer**

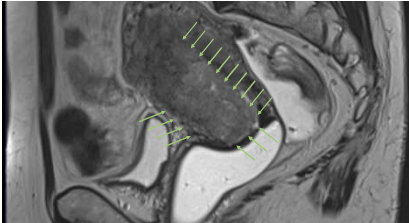
Emad Matanes, Zainab Amajoud, Shannon Salvador, Susie Lau, Walter Gottlieb  
 International Journal of Gynecologic Cancer 2022;32:953-954.



### BESIDES THAT

There are patients in which you should definitely

NOT USE A MANIPULATOR!!!!




REVIEW PREOPERATIVE IMAGES WITH YOUR RADIOLOGY TEAM



NOT ALL CASES ARE THE SAME SO...BE WISE!

## ACT WITH SAGENESS

An accurate assessment of preoperative the tumor's risk factors should be done in parallel with the correct evaluation of the patient to avoid worsening prognosis because of the route and way we perform our treatments.



## SEE WHAT HAPPENED WITH MIS IN CERVICAL CANCER



**The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE**  
ESTABLISHED IN 1812 NOVEMBER 15, 2018 VOL. 379 NO. 20

**Minimally Invasive versus Abdominal Radical Hysterectomy for Cervical Cancer**

Pedro T. Ramirez, M.D., Michael Frumovici, M.D., Rene Parais, M.D., Aldo Lopez, M.D., Marcelo Vieira, M.D., Renan Ribeiro, M.D., Alessandro Buda, M.D., Xiaojian Yan, M.D., Yao Shuzhong, M.D., Naven Chetty, M.D., David Iida, M.D., Mariano Tamura, M.D., Tao Zhu, M.D., Kristy P. Robledo, Ph.D., Val Cebasi, M.D., Rebecca Asher, M.Sc., Vanessa Behan, B.S.N., James L. Nicklin, M.D., Robert L. Coleman, M.D., and Andreas Obermair, M.D.

**2018**

**Everybody was doing MIS for RH because it was feasible and apparently as effective**

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**Survival after Minimally Invasive Radical Hysterectomy for Early-Stage Cervical Cancer**

Comparative outcomes between robotic and abdominal radical hysterectomy for IB1 cervical cancer: Results from a single high volume institution

David M. Duggan, M.D., Tyler Rickard, M.D., Lauren H. Colman, M.D., Gerald McClellan, M.D., Warren K. Huh, M.D., Charles A. Leach, M.D., Kenneth H. Kim, M.D.

**Comparison of laparoscopic and abdominal radical hysterectomy in early stage cervical cancer patients without adjuvant treatment: Ancillary analysis of a Korean Gynecologic Oncology Group Study (KCOG 0208)**

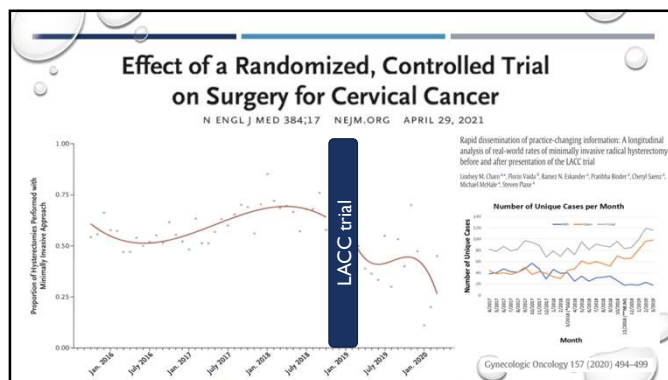
Eun Pak, M.D., Myung Chul Lee, M.D., Moon-Hong Kim, M.D., Hyeon Kim, M.D., Eun Seung Song, M.D., Jung Hyeon Song, M.D., Yong Min Lee, M.D., Chul-Ho Lee, M.D., and Chul-Ho Lee, M.D.

**Survival outcomes in patients with cervical cancer treated with open versus robotic radical hysterectomy: Our surgical pathology interpretation**

Jin Yang, M.D., Carolyn M. Hwang, M.D., Charles P. Hsu, M.D., Paul M. Hwang, M.D., William C. Hwang, M.D., and Carolyn M. Hwang, M.D.

**SUCCOR study: an international European cohort observational study comparing minimally invasive surgery versus open abdominal radical hysterectomy in patients with stage IB1 cervical cancer**

Luis Chiva, M.D., Valeria Zanagnolo, M.D., Denis Querleu, M.D., Nerea Martin-Cabro, M.D., Juan Arriola-Serrano, M.D., Enri Cipriani, M.D., Anna Fagotti, M.D., Ali Kucukmetin, M.D., Constantine Mom, M.D., Galina Chakotova, M.D., Sharmistha Aiyem, M.D., Maria Maltoni, M.D., Fabrice Narducci, M.D., Ovidiu Anestiuta, M.D., Francesco Raspagliesi, M.D., Tatyana Topfals, M.D., David Cibula, M.D., Dihyara Kaidarova, M.D., Mehmet Mulla, M.D., Margara Tavares, M.D., Dimitrios Goulas, M.D., Anna Myrman-Perrone, M.D., Robert Poka, M.D., Dimitrios Tsoulakidis, M.D., Goran Vujan, M.D., Marcin A. Jedryka, M.D., Petra L. M. Zusterzei, M.D., Jorgensen Jan, M.D., Frederico Goffin, M.D., Dimitrios Hadziioannidis, M.D., Herman Heller, M.D., Robert Jach, M.D., Iryna Yezhova, M.D., Igor Berlew, M.D., Margarida Bernardino, M.D., Raulina Bhattacharya, M.D., Maximilian Lohrer, M.D., Mirna M. Manopaa, M.D., Vlastislav Buehlin, M.D., Jean-Guillaume Faron, M.D., Robert Fruscio, M.D., Karsti Kuk, M.D., Joni Porosa, M.D., Jose Angel Mirquez, M.D., Daniel Vazquez-Vicente, M.D., Teresa Castellanos, M.D., Enrique Chacon, M.D., Juan Luis Alcazar, M.D., et al., on behalf of the SUCCOR study group



**Laparoscopic radical hysterectomy with transvaginal closure of vaginal cuff – a multicenter analysis**

Christhardt Kohler,<sup>1,2</sup> Hermann Hertel,<sup>3</sup> Jörg Hermann,<sup>4</sup> Simone Marnitz,<sup>5</sup> Peter Mallmann,<sup>1</sup> Giovanni Favero,<sup>6</sup> Andrea Plaikner,<sup>7</sup> Peter Martus,<sup>7</sup> Mieczyslaw Gajda,<sup>8</sup> Achim Schneider<sup>9</sup>

**Table 2** Comparison of disease-free survival and overall survival between LACC and this study

DFS	Follow-up	3 years DFS No. at risk (%)	4.5 years DFS No. at risk (%)	5 years DFS No. at risk (%)
LSC/robot arm in LACC trial	2.5 years	87.1% 142 (45%)	86% 80 (25%)	n/a 5 (2%)
Laparotomy arm in LACC trial	2.5 years	97.1% 134 (43%)	96.5% 90 (29%)	n/a 7 (2%)
Own results	>8 years (99 months)	96.8% 305 (78%)	95.8% 271 (70%)	95.7% 264 (68%)





## SOUNDS FAMILIAR, RIGHT?

Learn from  
the Past

Think of  
the Future

### IN CONCLUSION

1. Uterine manipulator is very useful, eases our Benign and Deep endometriosis surgeries.
2. You can still perform hysterectomy without a Uterine manipulator.
3. There is conflicting evidence concerning its oncological safety in Endometrial Cancer patients.
4. There are lots of pitfalls and ways in which you could worsen the prognosis of a uterus-confined tumor with the use of a Uterine manipulator.
5. Some simple common-sense measures could decrease adverse outcomes:
  - Avoiding the use of Uterine manipulator.
  - Sealing tubes
  - Closing cervical OS
  - Bagging specimens for safe extraction

### UTERINE MANIPULATOR USE IN ENDOMETRIAL CANCER SURGERY

#### AGAINST

(RISKS AND SOME CONFLICTING NEW DATA)

DR FERNANDO HEREDIA M – GYNCOLOGIC ONCOLOGIST  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR - UNIVERSIDAD DE CONCEPCION, CHILE



## MIS for Ovarian Cancer Interval Debulking

Gulden Menderes, MD  
Division of Gynecologic Oncology  
Health First Cancer Institute  
Melbourne, FL



## Disclosure

"I have no financial relationships to disclose"



## Objectives

- Review current literature
- Understand the significance and limitations of MIS in the management of ovarian cancer
- Provide videos demonstrating the feasibility of the minimally invasive technique
- Make an argument FOR this surgical approach in the management of patients with ovarian cancer



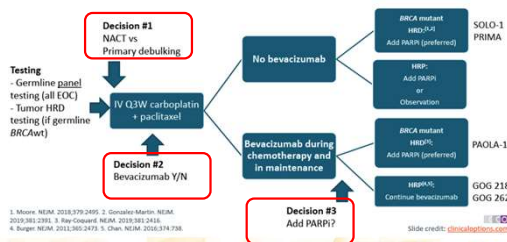
## OVARIAN CANCER

- Most fatal gynecologic cancer
- 75% of patients with advanced stage
- Traditionally: upfront open debulking
- Recently: are things improving?



## Course of Advanced Stage Ovarian Cancer

A 'CHRONIC' disease with multiple relapse




## WHO to Debulk?

- Debulkability of disease
- Tolerability of the host (performance status, nutritional status etc)



What do we do in reality when we 'debulk' patients?


## WHAT TO DEBULK?



December 1-4, 2022 | Aurora, CO | congress.aagl.org


## Literature on NACT/IDS vs Upfront Debulking

• WHEN TO DEBULK?




## Randomized Trials: NACT vs Primary Cytoreductive Surgery

Author	Study Design	N	RO (%)	Grade 3/4 complications	PFS (months)	OS (months)
Fagotti et al. SCORPION 2016	NACT PCS	55 55	58% 46%	6% 53% including 2 deaths p<0.0001	— —	— —
KERFOR et al. CHORUS 2015	NACT PCS	274 276	39% 17% p<0.0001	14% 24% p<0.007 Postop mortality -5.6%	12.0 10.7 HR=0.91 0.76-1.08	24.1 22.6 HR=0.87 0.72-1.05
Onida et al. JCOG 0602 2016	NACT PCS	152 149	63% 30%	5% 15% p=0.025	— —	— —
Vergote et al. EORTC 55971 2010	NACT PCS	334 336	51% 19%	21% 7.1% Postop mortality 2.5% vs 0.7%	12 12 HR=1.01 0.89-1.15	30 29 HR=0.98 0.84-1.13 p=0.01 noninferiority



December 1-4, 2022 | Aurora, CO | congress.aagl.org

## Literature on MIS interval debulking



GLOBAL CONGRESS ON MIGS  
December 1-4, 2022 | Aurora, CO | congress.aagl.org



## Fagotti Scoring System


- The lower the PIV score,
- The higher the likelihood of achieving R0

Fagotti laparoscopic predictive index value (PIV) score.

Omental cake  
Peritoneal/diaphragmatic carcinomatosis  
Mesenteric retraction  
Bowel/stomach infiltration  
Spleen/liver superficial metastasis

Each positive evaluation receives a score of 2.

Fagotti et al. Prospective validation of a laparoscopic predictive model. Am J Obstet Gynecol 2008;199:642.



December 1-4, 2022 | Aurora, CO | congress.aagl.org



51st GLOBAL CONGRESS ON MIGS  
December 1-4, 2022 | Aurora, CO | congress.aagl.org

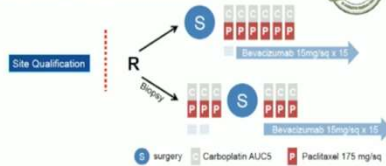
## Is this debulkable? Let's take a look!!

[Video for staging laparoscopy](#)

## Will **TRUST** Provide the Answer?

### Trial on Radical Upfront Surgical Therapy (TRUST)

- Primary Endpoint: OS ITT population
- Secondary Endpoints: PFS, resection rates, QOL, Fragility Index
- Strata: FIGO stage, Region, ECOG PS
- Site qualification process to ensure surgical quality

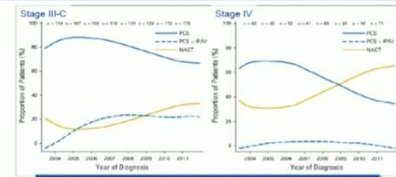


Accrual Status: 120/700 (May 2017)



## Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy vs Primary Cytoreductive Surgery

### Adoption of NACT, NCI-Designated Centers (US)



Within NCI-designated centers, NACT use increased from 16% to 34% in stage III-C (P trend < .001), and from 41% to 62% in stage IV (P trend < .001)



## HOW to Debulk?

*'In the time of molecular genetic progress of early cancer diagnosis and treatment, open surgery in oncology will soon be a surgical approach of the past.'*

Professor Liselotte Mettler  
Kiel, Germany



## How would MIS benefit patients over open debulking?

- Less blood loss
- Less infection
- Decreased length of stay
- Easier recovery
- What's new?



## Current Data on MI-IDS

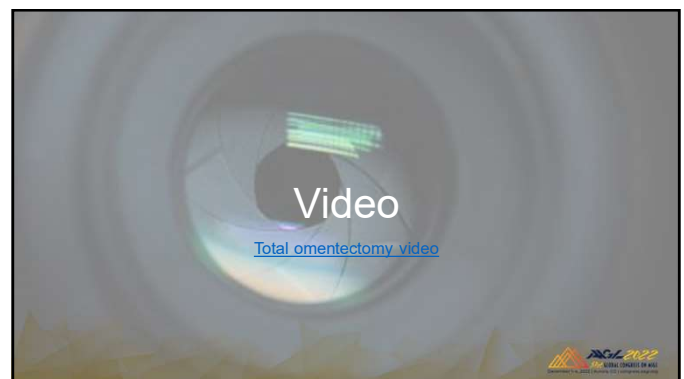
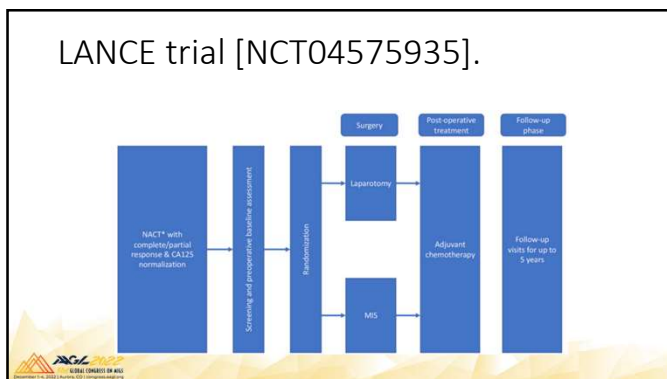
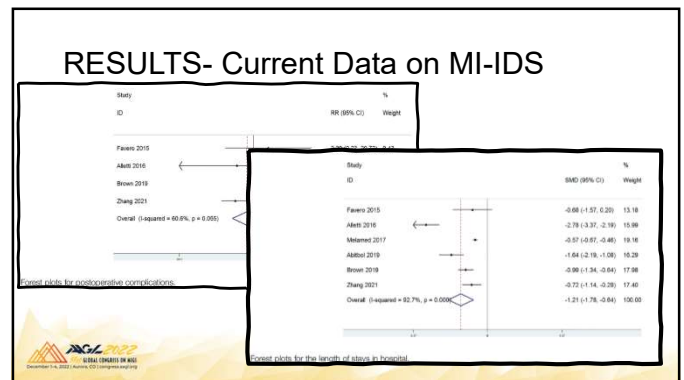
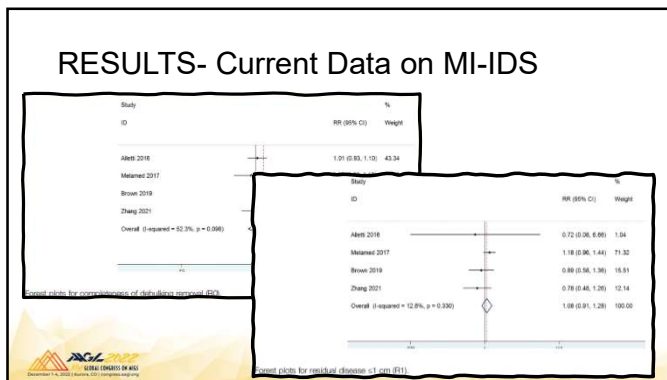
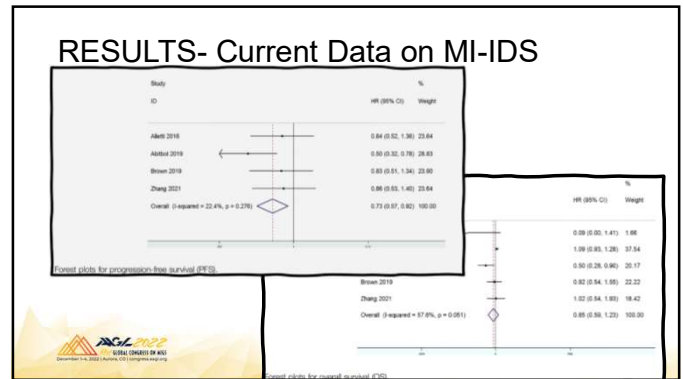


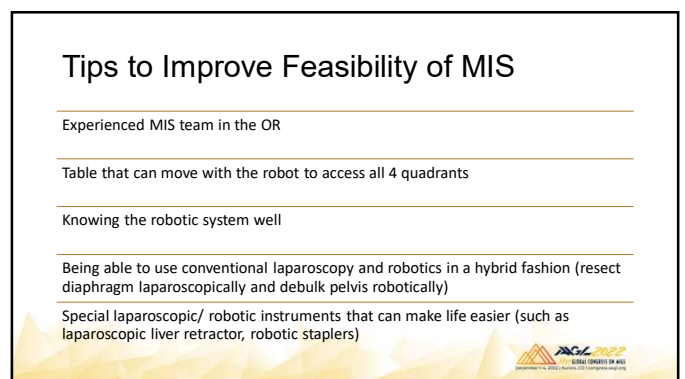
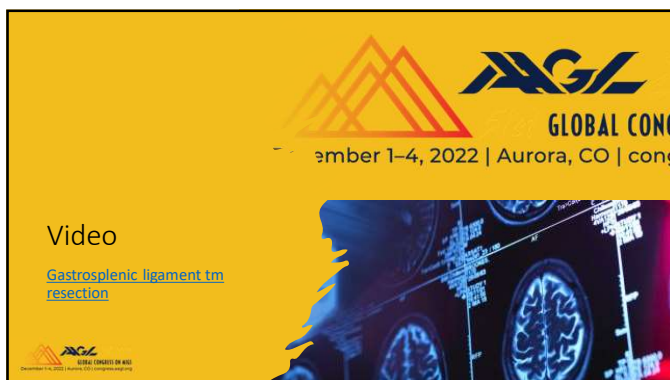
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GLOBAL CONGRESS ON MIGS  
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Study/Year	Duration	Study Design	Sample Size (M/O)	Chemo Cycles	ASA	Sta ge	Follow-up (months)	Primary Outcome	Secondary Outcome
Favero, 2015	2011-2014	R	10/11	6	NR	IIIC-IVA	20	OS	Complications, LOS
Aletti, 2016	2010-2014	R	30/65	6	1-2	III-IV	28	PFS	Complications, LOS, residual disease
Melamed, 2017	2010-2012	R	450/2621	NR	NR	III-IV	32	OS	LOS, residual disease
Ackroyd, 2018	2011-2016	R	29/0	3.9	NR	III-IV	34	OS, PFS	LOS, residual disease
Fagotti, 2019	2016-2019	R	127	4	1-3	IIIC-IV	37	OS, PFS	Complications, LOS, residual disease, TTC
Abitbol, 2019	2008-2014	R	57/34	NR	1-3	III-IV	37	OS, PFS	LOS



Study/Year	Duration	Study Design	Sample Size (M/D)	Chemo Cycles	ASA	Stage	Follow-up (months)	Primary Outcome	Secondary Outcome
Brown, 2019	2006-2017	R	53/104	3.5	NR	III-IV	43	OS, PFS	Complications, LOS, residual disease
Zhang, 2021	2011-2018	R	43/50	4	NR	III-IV	31	OS, PFS	Complications, LOS, residual disease
Morton, 2021	2017-2019	R	10/40	4	0-4	III-IV	15	Perioperative outcomes	PFS
Brown, 2021	2008-2018	R	200/293	NR	NR	III-IV	24	OS, PFS	Complications, LOS, residual disease
Augusto, 2022	2006-2013	R	7/23	3	NR	IIIC-IV	31	OS, PFS	Complications, LOS, residual disease
Menderes, unpublished	2015-2020	R	42/54	4	1-3	IIIC-IV	26	OS, PFS	Complications, LOS, residual disease







## Summary



The first consideration is who to debulk? Would the patient survive general anesthesia for over 2-3 hours and debulking surgery?



If debulking is a possibility, is my patient more appropriate for upfront or interval debulking?



If an interval debulking candidate, can it be done safely and efficiently with MIS approach? Can I get this patient to R0 with reasonable recovery and QoL?



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## Questions



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## Minimally Invasive Surgery for Ovarian Cancer Interval Debulking

CON

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## Disclosure

- Consultant: Johnson & Johnson
- Speakers Bureau: Eisai, AstraZeneca, Merck



## Objectives

- Review the rationale for cytoreductive surgery for ovarian cancer
- Explore implications of inadequate cytoreductive outcomes with minimally invasive approach
- Consider criteria for future consideration of minimally invasive cytoreductive surgery



## Advanced Ovarian Cancer Outcomes: what do we control?

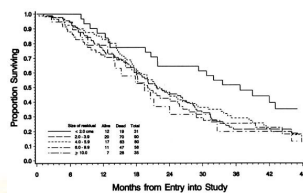
1. Cytoreductive outcome
2. Appropriate systemic therapy
3. Minimize complications impacting #1 and #2

Not in our control:  
Tumor biology



## Cytoreductive Success = Survival

- Largest diameter residual disease is most important modifiable predictor of survival in patients undergoing cytoreductive surgery



Hoskins et al, AJOG, 1994



## Cytoreductive Success = Survival

Trial	Residual disease at IDS, n (%)	Overall survival	% IDS pts with complete response to NACT	Major surgical complications in IDS arm
Fagotti, et al SCORPION trial 2016	0 mm: 57 (77%) ≥ 1 mm: 16 (23%)	~50 months ~24 months	Not reported	G3-4: 7% Death: 0
Kehoe, et al CHORUS trial 2015	0 mm: 64 (43%) 1 - 10 mm: 49 (33%) > 10 mm: 36 (24%)	~47 months ~24 months ~15 months	2%	G3-4: 14% Death: 1 (<1%); PE
Onda et al JCOG 0602 2016	0 mm: 83 (64%) 1 - 10 mm: 24 (19%) > 10 mm: 23 (18%)	67 months 34 months 32 months	6.6%	G3-4: 5.4% Death: 0
Vergote et al EORTC 55971 2010	0 mm: 151 (51%) 1 - 10 mm: 87 (30%) > 10 mm: 57 (19%)	38 months 27 months 25 months	4.3%	G3-4: 5.4% Death: 2 (0.7%)

Especially with interval debulking surgery (IDS)



## Cytoreductive Success = Survival

- Surgeon-reported cytoreductive outcome correlates strongly with survival
- Does this actually indicate that minimal disease was left behind?

No... 67 patients at MSKCC with postoperative CT following optimal cytoreduction to surgeon reported < 1 cm residual disease: ~47% with > 1 cm residual on CT

- Residual disease on postop CT → decreased OS

Lakhman et al, JR Am J Roentgenol, 2012



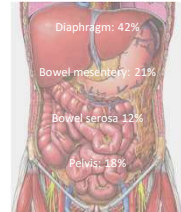
## Cytoreductive Success = Survival

- Even with best *open* effort, disease is oftentimes left behind

- Tough areas to see are most common locations for residual disease

- No video can show you how well or poorly you removed disease that you never saw

Most Common Residual Disease Sites at IDS

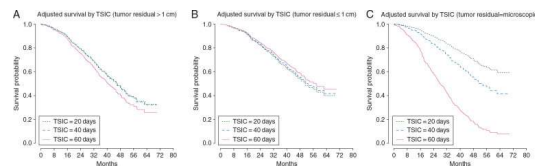


Manning-Geist et al, AJOG 2019



## Importance of Timely Systemic Therapy

- Time from surgery to chemotherapy impacts survival (a little)



Tewari et al, Ann Oncol 2016



## Importance of Timely Systemic Therapy

- Time to chemotherapy/reducing complications does impact survival but...

- Patients who are best candidates for MIS interval surgery:
  - Complete response to NACT on imaging
  - Normal CA125
  - Good candidate for minimally invasive surgery

- Risk of complications with laparotomy for these patients is LOW



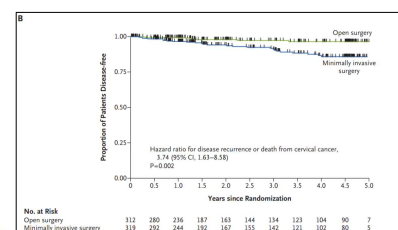
## MIS Interval Cytoreduction

- Burden of proof must be VERY high:
  - Cytoreductive outcome is most important predictor of survival at interval cytoreduction
- Good MIS IDS candidates have low risk of complications regardless of surgical approach
- Since complications are not a concern, must demonstrate that residual disease does not matter much at IDS (contrary to 30+ years of data)

Just because something makes sense, doesn't mean it's true



## LACC Trial: A Lesson in MIS Surgery



Ramirez et al, NEJM 2018

12

## Lessons for Future

- Must wait for randomized trial to determine safety and efficacy of MIS interval cytoreduction in ovarian cancer
- New technology may improve detection of occult metastases in patients undergoing interval surgery
  - Pafolacianine (FR+) with near infrared imaging → detected 40% more lesions; could be especially helpful during MIS



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## CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC COMPETENCY & IMPLICIT BIAS

The California Medical Association (CMA) announced new standards for Cultural Linguistic Competency and Implicit Bias in CME. The goal of the standards is to support the role of accredited CME in advancing diversity, health equity, and inclusion in healthcare. These standards are relevant to ACCME-accredited, CMA-accredited, and jointly accredited providers located in California. AAGL is ACCME-accredited and headquartered in California.

CMA developed the standards in response to California legislation ([Business and Professions \(B&P\) Code Section 2190.1](#)), which directs CMA to draft a set of standards for the inclusion of cultural and linguistic competency (CLC) and implicit bias (IB) in accredited CME.

The standards are intended to support CME providers in meeting the expectations of the legislation. CME provider organizations physically located in California and accredited by CMA CME or ACCME, as well as jointly accredited providers whose target audience includes physicians, are expected to meet these expectations beginning January 1, 2022. AAGL has been proactively adopting processes that meet and often exceed the required expectations of the legislation.

CMA CME offers a variety of resources and tools to help providers meet the standards and successfully incorporate CLC & IB into their CME activities, including FAQ, definitions, a planning worksheet, and best practices. These resources are available on the [CLC and IB standards page](#) on the CMA website.

### **Important Definitions:**

**Cultural and Linguistic Competency (CLC)** – The ability and readiness of health care providers and organizations to humbly and respectfully demonstrate, effectively communicate, and tailor delivery of care to patients with diverse values, beliefs, identities and behaviors, in order to meet social, cultural and linguistic needs as they relate to patient health.

**Implicit Bias (IB)** – The attitudes, stereotypes and feelings, either positive or negative, that affect our understanding, actions and decisions without conscious knowledge or control. Implicit bias is a universal phenomenon. When negative, implicit bias often contributes to unequal treatment and disparities in diagnosis, treatment decisions, levels of care and health care outcomes of people based on race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability and other characteristics.

**Diversity** – Having many different forms, types or ideas; showing variety. Demographic diversity can mean a group composed of people of different genders, races/ethnicities, cultures, religions, physical abilities, sexual orientations or preferences, ages, etc.

### **Direct links to AB1195 (CLC), AB241 (IB), and the B&P Code 2190.1:**

[Bill Text – AB-1195 Continuing education: cultural and linguistic competency.](#)

[Bill Text – AB-241 Implicit bias: continuing education: requirements.](#)

[Business and Professions \(B&P\) Code Section 2190.1](#)

### **CLC & IB Online Resources:**

[Diversity-Wheel-as-used-at-Johns-Hopkins-University-12.png \(850×839\) \(researchgate.net\)](#)

[Cultural Competence In Health and Human Services | NPIN \(cdc.gov\)](#)

[Cultural Competency – The Office of Minority Health \(hhs.gov\)](#)

[Implicit Bias, Microaggressions, and Stereotypes Resources | NEA](#)

[Unconscious Bias Resources | diversity.ucsf.edu](#)

[Act, Communicating, Implicit Bias \(racialequitytools.org\)](#)

<https://kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/implicit-bias-training>

<https://www.uptodate.com/contents/racial-and-ethnic-disparities-in-obstetric-and-gynecologic-care-and-role-of-implicitbiases>

<https://www.contemporaryobgyn.net/view/overcoming-racism-and-unconscious-bias-in-ob-gyn>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34016820/>