

## Did you know?

- Ovarian cancer affects women of all ages and races.
- The Pap Test does **NOT** screen for ovarian cancer.
- Each year about 374 Missouri women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer.



**Ovarian  
Cancer**  
KNOW YOUR RISK



## About MOCC

Working together across Missouri to build a strong alliance with healthcare providers, healthcare systems, professional organizations, universities, counselors, community leaders and volunteers to communicate ovarian cancer early warning signs and symptoms among women of all ages and promote early detection and survivorship.

## MOCC Vision

All women in Missouri are aware of ovarian cancer signs, symptoms and risk factors and are empowered to make informed decisions leading to early detection, treatment and survivorship.

**Missouri Ovarian Cancer Coalition**  
[www.MoOvarianCancer.org](http://www.MoOvarianCancer.org)

## Know the Symptoms of Ovarian Cancer



### Bloating



### Pelvic or abdominal pain



### Urinary urgency or frequency



### Difficulty eating or feeling full quickly

Above are the most common symptoms but others can include: excessive fatigue, upset stomach, back pain, painful intercourse, constipation, abnormal vaginal bleeding or discharge, or abdominal swelling with weight loss.

## What are the symptoms?

The symptoms of ovarian cancer have been described as vague. Yet, in most cases, women experience symptoms that may be overlooked or misdiagnosed as a more common condition such as irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) or menopause.

Experts in gynecological cancer now agree that most women who are diagnosed with ovarian cancer experience one or more of these four symptoms:

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

## What are risk factors?

All women are at risk for ovarian cancer, but some appear to be at a greater risk. The following factors may contribute to an increased risk:

- A family history of breast, ovarian, or colorectal cancer
- Women with the BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutations
- Women who have never had children are at a higher risk
- Women of Eastern European or Ashkenazi Jewish heritage may be genetically predisposed to ovarian cancer

## What should I do if I experience symptoms?

The above symptoms can be experienced by all women. However if these symptoms persist for two weeks or more, or in a way that is abnormal for you, consult your primary care doctor or gynecologist. If you have a family history, consider seeking genetic counseling.