Modern management of ovarian cancer

Ovarian cancer is treated with a combination of surgery and chemotherapy. Both forms of therapy are important as one without the other is virtually synonymous with a recurrence. The history of the disease along with its presentation and current management will be reviewed as a prelude to the discussion of advanced forms of therapy, including HIPEC, targeted treatment, and immunotherapy. Most patients present in advanced stages and so the recurrence rate remains at an unacceptable 80%. The CA-125 blood test has been around for almost 40 years and is absolutely useless as a diagnostic test. An exciting new test for ovarian cancer, which appears to be 100% sensitive and specific, will be described in detail. The interesting 15 year journey to its discovery will be discussed along with its possible use as a mass-screening tool along with the annual pap smear for cervical cancer.

Biography

Benedict B Benigno is a world-renowned Gynecologic Surgeon and Oncologist who has spent his career treating women with ovarian cancer. In 1999, he founded the Ovarian Cancer Institute and serves as its CEO. He received his MD degree from the Georgetown University School of Medicine, and completed his residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at St. Vincent’s Hospital and Medical Center in New York City. He completed two fellowships in Gynecologic Oncology, one at the Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta and the other at the M D Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston. He is the Founder and President of University Gynecologic Oncology and the Director of Gynecologic Oncology at Northside Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. He is a member of many societies including the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists, the Felix Rutledge Society, and the American Society of Clinical Oncologists. He is a Clinical Professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Emory University School of Medicine, the Morehouse School of Medicine, and Mercer University. He serves on the board of the Parker H Petit Institute of Bioengineering and Bioscience at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He has published numerous articles and textbook chapters, and travels the world speaking on various aspects of gynecologic cancer. He is the author of the book, “The Ultimate Guide to Ovarian Cancer: Everything You Need to Know about Diagnosis, Treatment, and Research”. He was honored in 2002 with the Hero of Medicine Award for the Most Innovative Cancer Research in the State of Georgia. In 2014, he was appointed to the ovarian cancer steering committee based in the National Institute of Health.

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