



OVARIAN CANCER

RISK FACTORS

- » Reproductive history/childbearing: a woman may have an increased risk of ovarian cancer if: She began menstruating before age 12, had no children or had her first child after age 30, and/or experienced menopause after age 50
- » Personal history
- » Prolonged use of fertility drugs
- » Talcum powder in the genital area
- » Hormone replacement therapy
- » Family history
- » Age



SIGNS/SYMPTOMS

- » General abdominal discomfort and/or pain (gas, indigestion, pressure, swelling or cramps)
- » Nausea, diarrhea, constipation or frequent urination
- » Loss of appetite - Feeling of fullness even after a light meal - Weight gain or loss with no known reason
- » Unusual vaginal bleeding

These are common symptoms but if you have any of them and they persist you should see your doctor



PREVENTION

Research has shown that certain factors may reduce a woman's risk of developing ovarian cancer:

- » Taking birth control pills. Women who took oral contraceptives for three or more years are 30% to 50% less likely to develop ovarian cancer.
- » Breastfeeding
- » Pregnancy

