

<u>Captaĭn's Call Kit</u>

Healthwatch: Gynecologic Cancer Awareness

NNS030915-06

A woman will be diagnosed with gynecologic cancer every seven minutes, according to the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation (GCF).

To evaluate your potential risk for a gynecologic cancer, which includes ovarian, cervical and uterine cancer, the GCF recommends knowing your family history, asking questions during your annual gynecologic exam and getting an annual Pap smear.

Risk factors for ovarian cancer include a family history of breast or ovarian cancer, no children and age greater than 60. Symptoms include loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting, abdominal bloating and a change in usual bowel habits.

Risk factors for cervical cancer include unprotected sex, multiple sexual partners and smoking.

Uterine cancer is also a very serious condition and some of its risk factors include obesity, diabetes and high blood pressure. Symptoms include abnormal bleeding, especially after menopause.

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