

APPENDIX S5 OVARIAN CANCER

- 1.1 Standardized ultrasound report for ovarian cancer assessment
- 1.2 FIGO / TNM staging
- 1.3 Methodology of ovarian mass characterization
- 1.4 Methodology of ovarian cancer staging and prediction of resectability

1.1. Standardized ultrasound report for ovarian cancer assessment

Ultrasound parameter	Description
Adnexal mass (describe the most complex mass or, in case of similar morphology, the largest one)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unilateral / bilateral Side of dominant mass: right, left, central Origin of the dominant mass: ovarian, paraovarian, fallopian tube, uncertain Morphology according to IOTA terms (Figure S2)⁽¹⁾: unilocular, unilocular-solid, multilocular, multilocular-solid, solid Largest diameter (mm) Ovarian crescent sign: Present or Absent
Pattern recognition of dominant mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benign/borderline/malignant Specific diagnosis
IOTA ADNEX model (with/without CA 125)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CA 125 U/mL (if available) Risk of malignancy (subgroup of malignancy)^(2, 3)
Intraperitoneal free fluid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present (pelvic, subdiaphragmatic, abdominal) Absent
Pelvic involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anterior compartment Posterior compartment > Recto-sigmoid carcinomatosis (serosa only / muscularis propria and deeper) If the pelvic side wall is affected, document the involved structures[£]
Upper Abdominal involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Left diaphragm Splenic parenchyma / serosa / perisplenic ligaments Right diaphragm Liver parenchyma / serosa Lesser omentum and liver hilum Other visceral organs (gallbladder, stomach and duodenum, pancreas and others) Kidneys/ureters (if dilatation, the grading of hydronephrosis, distention of the renal sinus (grade 1), or the renal pelvis and calyces (grade 2), sacciform hydronephrosis and atrophy of renal parenchyma (grade 3)⁽⁴⁾
Anterior abdominal wall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present/absent involvement
Mesogastrum involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supracolic omentum Infracolic omentum Large and small bowel serosa and its mesentery Left and right paracolic gutter
Regional (pelvic and abdominal) lymph nodes[£]	<p>Description of site, number, laterality</p> <p>Assessment by standardized VITA terms using the classification LN1 – LN5⁽⁵⁾:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LN1: Normal finding LN2: Benign finding LN3: Indeterminate, probably benign finding LN4: Probably malignant finding LN 5: Malignant finding
Distant spread	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distant lymph nodes (inguinofemoral / supradiaphragmatic; site, number, laterality if appropriate, lymph node status LN1-LN5)⁽⁵⁾ Other distant spread (pleural parietal wall involvement right/left)
Pleural fluid (hydrothorax)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right/left
Other findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Related / unrelated gynecologic / non-gynecologic pathologies
Prediction of non-resectability (Figure S7)*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small bowel carcinomatosis Root of the small bowel Stomach/duodenum Head/corpus of the pancreas Non-resectable liver metastases Hepatic hilum Non-resectable lymph node metastases
Staging system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TNM and FIGO staging systems⁽⁶⁻⁸⁾

- Comments and recommendations to additional diagnostic tests to the referring specialist and to multidisciplinary team meeting

^fPelvic side wall is defined as the parietal muscles of the pelvis, fascia, neurovascular structures, or skeletal portions of the bony pelvis.

*ESMO-ESGO markers of non-resectability. Non-resectable disease is defined by one or more markers published by the ESMO-ESGO consensus conference in 2019 (Figure S7)⁽⁹⁾.

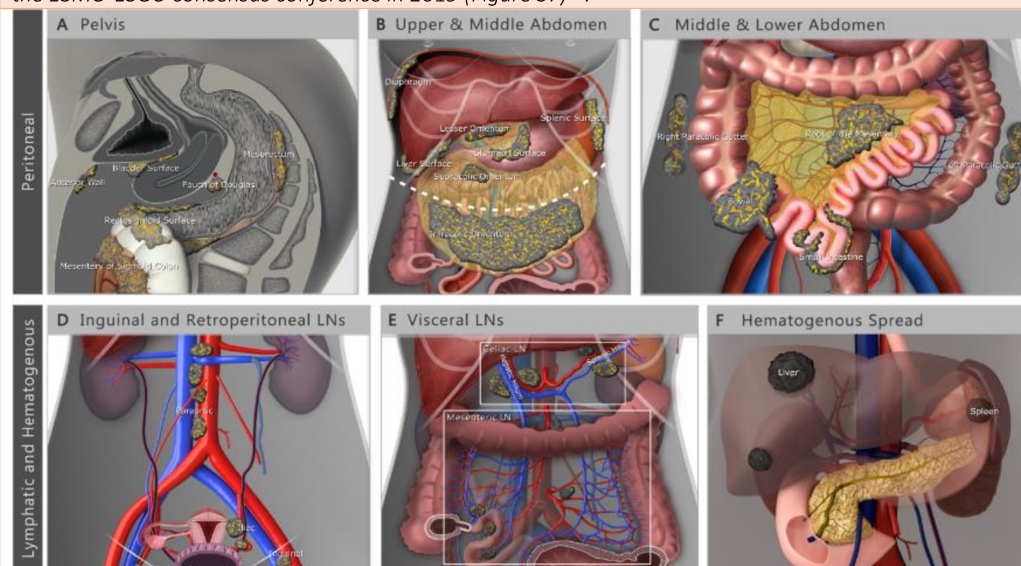


Figure S1 Protocol on how to scan the pelvis and abdomen in ovarian cancer staging. Schematic diagram showing pelvic involvement with peritoneal carcinomatosis (A) parietal carcinomatosis in pouch of Douglas, visceral carcinomatosis in uterovesical fold and on the sigmoid colon, mesenteric carcinomatosis in the mesorectum and sigmoid mesocolon. Schematic diagram showing peritoneal carcinomatosis in upper quadrant (C) with parietal carcinomatosis on the diaphragm, visceral carcinomatosis on the liver, stomach and splenic surface and omental carcinomatosis including lesser (hepatoduodenal and hepatogastric ligaments) and greater omentum infiltration (the border of supra- and infracolic omentum is marked with dot-and-dash code according to the position of the transverse colon). Schematic diagram showing an example of peritoneal involvement in the middle abdomen (C) with parietal carcinomatosis in the left paracolic gutter, visceral carcinomatosis on the caecum and ileal loops and mesenteric involvement of the radix mesenterii of the small intestine. Schematic diagram showing inguinal and retroperitoneal iliac and paraaortic lymph node involvement (D). Schematic diagram of infiltrated visceral lymph nodes (E) containing coeliac and mesenteric lymph nodes. Schematic diagram of haematogenous spread in the liver and spleen (F).

LNs, lymph nodes.

Table S1 Ultrasound checklist on tubo-ovarian cancer based the consensus of the authors

1.2. FIGO / TNM staging system for tubo-ovarian cancer

FIGO	T	N	M	DEFINITION
I	T1	N0	M0	The cancer is only in the ovary (or ovaries) or fallopian tube(s) (T1). It has not spread to nearby lymph nodes (N0) or to distant sites (M0).
IA	T1a	N0	M0	The cancer is in one ovary, and the tumor is confined to the inside of the ovary; or the cancer is in one fallopian tube, and is only inside the fallopian tube. There is no cancer on the outer surfaces of the ovary or fallopian tube. No cancer cells are found in the fluid (ascites) or washings from the abdomen and pelvis (T1a).
IB	T1b	N0	M0	The cancer is in both ovaries or fallopian tubes but not on their outer surfaces. No cancer cells are found in the fluid (ascites) or washings from the abdomen and pelvis (T1b).
IC	T1c	N0	M0	The cancer is in one or both ovaries or fallopian tubes and any of the following are present: The tissue (capsule) surrounding the tumor broke during surgery, which could allow cancer cells to leak into the abdomen and pelvis (called surgical spill). This is stage IC1 . Cancer is on the outer surface of at least one of the ovaries or fallopian tubes or the capsule (tissue surrounding the tumor) has ruptured (burst) before surgery (which could allow cancer cells to spill into the abdomen and pelvis). This is stage IC2 . Cancer cells are found in the fluid (ascites) or washings from the abdomen and pelvis. This is stage IC3 .
II	T2	N0	M0	The cancer is in one or both ovaries or fallopian tubes and has spread to other organs (such as the uterus, bladder, the sigmoid colon, or the rectum) within the pelvis or there is primary peritoneal cancer (T2). It has not spread to nearby lymph nodes (N0) or to distant sites (M0).
IIA	T2a	N0	M0	The cancer has spread to or has invaded (grown into) the uterus or the fallopian tubes, or the ovaries. (T2a).
IIB	T2b	N0	M0	The cancer is on the outer surface of or has grown into other nearby pelvic organs such as the bladder, the sigmoid colon, or the rectum (T2b).
IIIA1	T1 or T2	N1	M0	The cancer is in one or both ovaries or fallopian tubes, or there is primary peritoneal cancer (T1) and it may have spread or grown into nearby organs in the pelvis (T2). It has spread to the retroperitoneal (pelvic and/or para-aortic) lymph nodes only. It has not spread to distant sites (M0).
IIIA2	T3a	N0 or N1	M0	The cancer is in one or both ovaries or fallopian tubes, or there is primary peritoneal cancer and it has spread or grown into organs outside the pelvis. During surgery, no cancer is visible in the abdomen (outside of the pelvis) to the naked eye, but tiny deposits of cancer are found in the lining of the abdomen when it is examined in the lab (T3a). The cancer might or might not have spread to retroperitoneal lymph nodes (N0 or N1), but it has not spread to distant sites (M0).
IIIB	T3b	N0 or N1	M0	The cancer is in one or both ovaries or fallopian tubes, or there is primary peritoneal cancer and it has spread or grown into organs outside the pelvis. During surgery, no cancer is visible in the abdomen (outside of the pelvis) to the naked eye, but tiny deposits of cancer are found in the lining of the abdomen when it is examined in the lab (T3a). The cancer might or might not have spread to retroperitoneal lymph nodes (N0 or N1), but it has not spread to distant sites (M0).
IIIC	T3c	N0 or N1	M0	The cancer is in one or both ovaries or fallopian tubes, or there is primary peritoneal cancer and it has spread or grown into organs outside the pelvis. The deposits of cancer are larger than 2 cm (about 3/4 inch) across and may be on the outside (the capsule) of the liver or spleen (T3c). It may or may not have spread to the retroperitoneal lymph nodes (N0 or N1), but it has not spread to the inside of the liver or spleen or to distant sites (M0).
IVA	Any T	Any N	M1a	Cancer cells are found in the fluid around the lungs (called a malignant pleural effusion) with no other areas of cancer spread such as the liver, spleen, intestine, or lymph nodes outside the abdomen (M1a).
IVB	Any T	Any N	M1b	The cancer has spread to the inside of the spleen or liver, to lymph nodes other than the retroperitoneal lymph nodes, and/or to other organs or tissues outside the peritoneal cavity such as the lungs and bones (M1b).

Table S2 2014 FIGO and 2016 TNM staging system for tubo-ovarian cancer^(6,7)

1.3. Methodology of ovarian mass characterization

Transvaginal ultrasound examination is the standard first-line imaging investigation for the assessment and characterization of adnexal pathology.⁽¹⁰⁾ To standardize the description and sonographic evaluation of adnexal (ovarian, para-ovarian, and tubal) masses across different centers, the IOTA group has developed a universal nomenclature (Figure S2).⁽¹⁾

IOTA

TABLE OF LESIONS

Terms and definitions from the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) group

<p>Unilocular cyst</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 A unilocular cyst without septa and without solid parts or papillary structures. 2 If a cyst has only incomplete septa and no real septa, it is recorded as unilocular. An incomplete septum as seen in hydrosalpinges is defined as a thin strand of tissue running across the cyst cavity from one internal surface to the contralateral side, but which is not complete in some scanning planes. 3 If there is irregular internal cyst wall without a solid papillary projection, then the cyst is also unilocular by definition. The height of excrescences should be less than 3 mm. 4 The hyperreflective and avascular area ("white ball") in the center of dermoid cyst should not be classified as a solid papillary projection. 5 Similarly, "sludge" on the internal walls is not regarded as a papillary projection. 	
<p>Unilocular-solid cyst</p> <p>A unilocular cyst with a measurable solid component or at least one papillary structure. This category may include pyo- or hydrosalpinges with the so-called 'beads-on-a-string' or 'cogwheel' appearance if their height is greater than or equal to 3 mm. If the solid components comprise 80% or more of the tumor than the mass is called a solid tumor.</p>	
<p>Multilocular cyst</p> <p>A cyst with at least one septum but no measurable solid components or papillary projections. A septum is not classified as a solid component and is defined as a thin echogenic strand of tissue running across the cyst cavity from one internal surface to the contralateral side.</p>	
<p>Multilocular-solid cyst</p> <p>A multilocular cyst with a measurable solid component or at least one papillary projection.</p>	
<p>Solid tumor</p> <p>A tumor where the solid components comprise 80% or more of the tumor when assessed in a two-dimensional section. A solid tumor may contain papillary projections protruding into the small cysts of the solid tumor.</p>	
<p>Internal cyst wall</p> <p>The internal cyst wall is described as being "smooth" or "irregular". If there is a solid papillary projection, then the wall is irregular by definition. In cases of "sludge" (as seen in endometriotic cysts), the internal walls are also called irregular.</p>	
<p>Solid papillary projection</p> <p>Solid papillary projections are defined as any solid projections protruding into the cyst cavity from the cyst wall with a height greater than or equal to 3 mm. The hyperechogenic avascular area of a dermoid cyst or sludge on the internal walls are not regarded as a papillary projection. Solid papillary projections are described as being "smooth" or "irregular" (e.g. califlower-like).</p>	
<p>Cystic contents</p> <p>The dominant feature of the cystic contents is described as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 anechoic (black) 2 low-level echogenic (i.e. homogeneous low-level echogenic as seen in mucinous tumors) 3 "ground glass" appearance (homogeneously dispersed echogenic cystic contents, as often seen in endometriotic cysts) 4 hemorrhagic (with internal thread-like structures, representing strands) 5 or mixed (as often seen in teratomas). 	
<p>Subjective assessment of blood flow</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Color score of 1 is given when no blood flow within the septa, cyst walls, or solid tumor areas. 2 Color score of 2 is given when only minimal flow can be detected. 3 Color score of 3 is given when moderate flow is present. 4 Color score of 4 is given when the adnexal mass appears highly vascular with marked blood flow. 	
<p>Acoustic shadows</p> <p>The presence of acoustic shadows, defined as loss of acoustic echo behind a sound-absorbing structure, is noted.</p>	

Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol 2000; 16: 500-505

Figure S2 Terms and definitions from the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) group.⁽¹⁾

1. Pattern recognition approach (subjective assessment of ovarian, para-ovarian, tubal tumours)

Subjective assessment by expert ultrasound examiners has excellent diagnostic performance to distinguish between benign and malignant ovarian tumours. In many cases, expert sonographers can narrow the diagnosis down to a specific histological subtype based on pattern recognition of pathognomonic features associated with different tumor histotypes (Figure S3). These typical ultrasound features have been published in the series "Imaging in gynecological disease" *Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology* ([https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1469-0705.IMAGINGINGYNECOLOGICALDISEASE](https://obgyn.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/toc/10.1002/(ISSN)1469-0705.IMAGINGINGYNECOLOGICALDISEASE)). These features are also reported in the latest preoperative guidelines on ovarian cancer.⁽³⁾

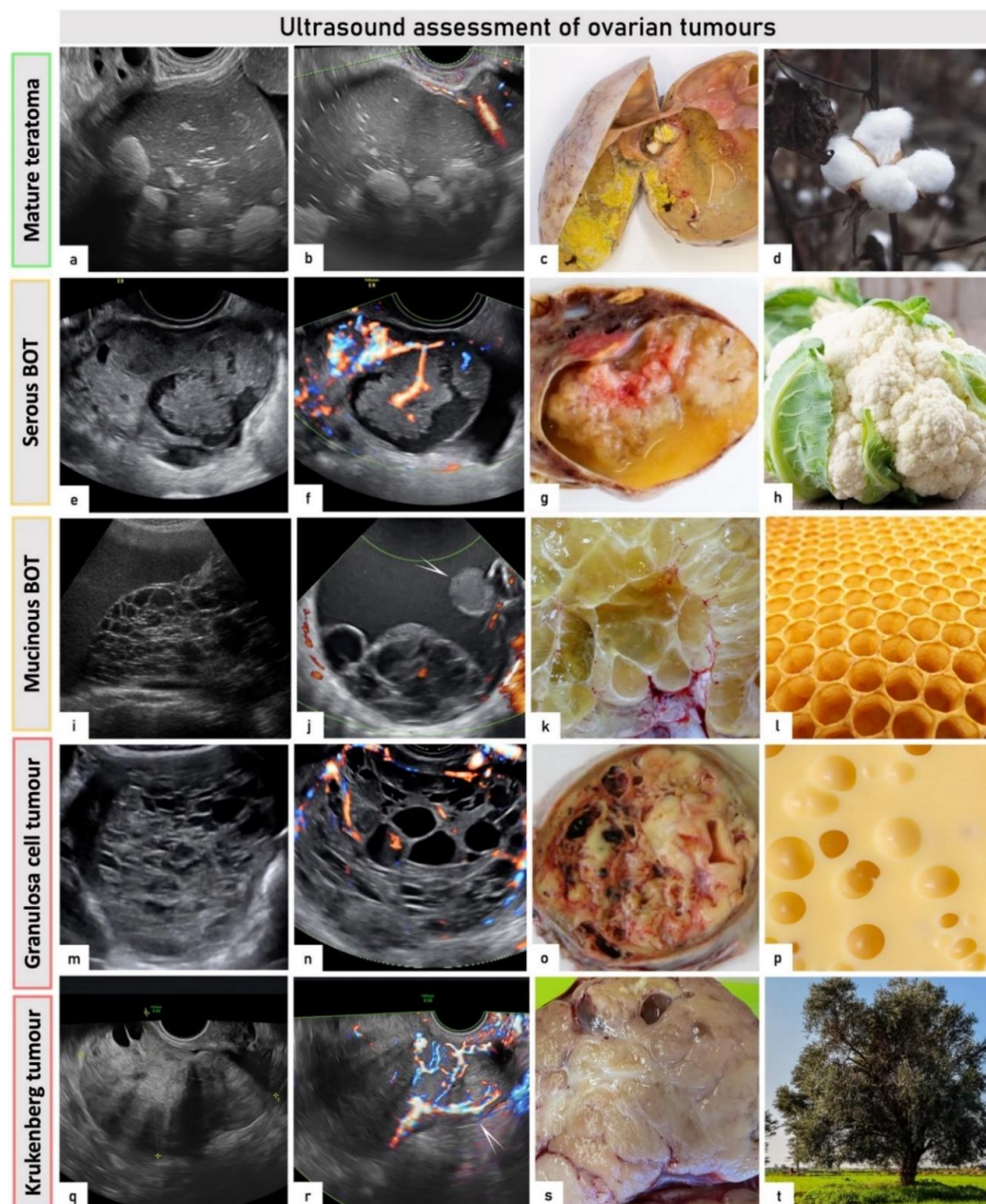


Figure S3 Subjective assessment of ovarian tumors based on specific features presented in the series "Imaging in Gynecological Disease". The ultrasound images are shown beside the corresponding macroscopic appearance at the surgery and with objects that typically resemble the structure of these tumors. In the first line the ultrasound in gray-scale and with Power Doppler and pathological characteristics of benign ovarian teratomas are shown (a, b, c); they often have mixed content, including fat, hairs and sebaceous material that resembles cotton wool and are avascular (d).⁽¹¹⁾ The solid component of serous borderline tumors of the ovary (e, f, g) is sometimes similar to the outline of a

cauliflower (h).^(12, 13) Mucinous borderline tumors have multiple locules containing intracystic fluid of variable echogenicity (dense mucinous content is marked with the arrow)(i, j, k) and multiple densely packed daughter cysts resembling the appearance of a honeycomb (l).^(12, 14, 15) Granulosa cell tumor of the ovary is often a solid tumor with small cysts (with low-level or ground-glass echogenicity fluid) dispersed within it (m, n, o) resembling swiss cheese (p).⁽¹⁶⁾ Metastatic tumours to the ovary may have different features depending on the site of the primary. Krukenberg tumour (q, r, s) is an ovarian metastasis of a signet-ring cell tumor, usually being bilateral well-encapsulated solid tumor, fibroma-like (stripy shadowing due to desmoplastic reaction), but with typical perfusion patterns including ring-shaped vessels (arrow) surrounding the metastatic nodules⁽¹⁷⁾ and a 'lead' vessel running into the tumor with a "tree-shaped" appearance.^(16, 18)

2. Ultrasound-based diagnostic rules and risk prediction models

One of the most significant achievements of the IOTA Collaborative Group has been the development of the IOTA rules and risk prediction models based on the logistic regression analysis that can be used by non-experts in order to accurately differentiate between benign and malignant adnexal tumors.⁽¹⁸⁻²¹⁾ The performance of IOTA rules and prediction models have been externally validated.^(10, 22-24) Accurate diagnostic work-up is key in selecting optimal management for patients, allowing proper triaging of cases for conservative management, surgery in a district hospital, or specialised treatment in a gynaecological oncology centre.⁽²⁵⁾

2.1. IOTA Simple Rules

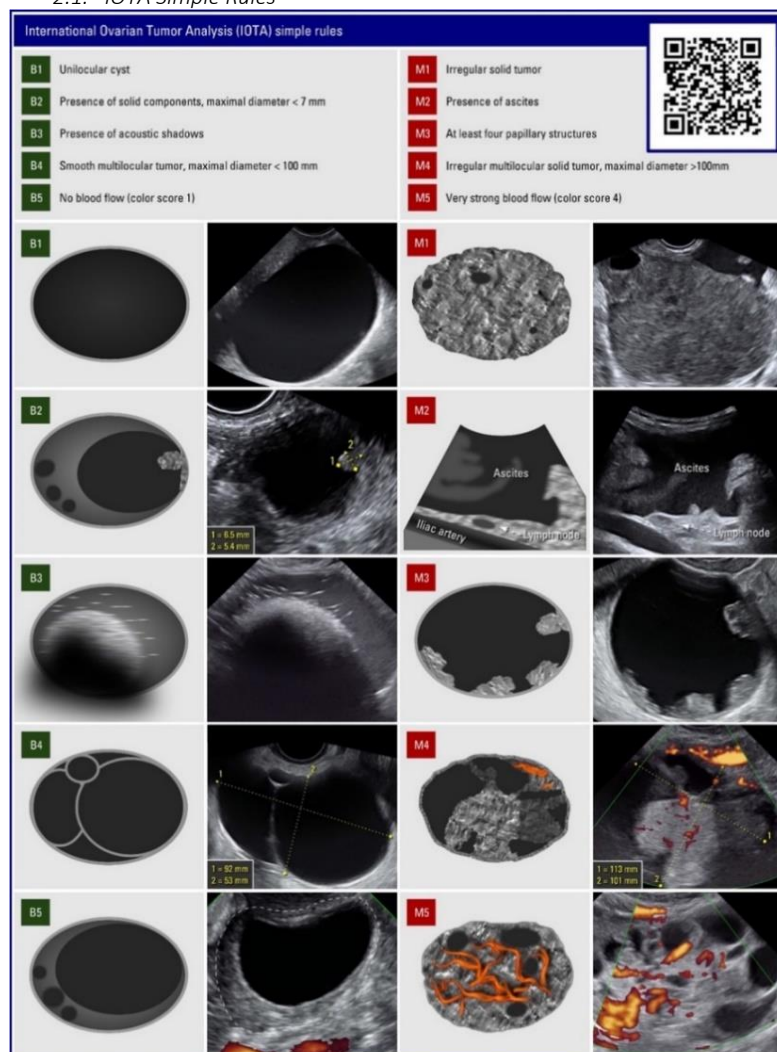


Figure S4 IOTA Simple Rules and IOTA Simple Rules Risk calculator (QR code). Five benign (B1-5) and five malignant (M1-5) features. IOTA; the International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) group.^(18, 26)

IOTA Simple Rules are currently broadly accepted and used in clinical practice to differentiate between benign and malignant adnexal tumors without the need of CA 125 level and sophisticated technologies (Figure S4).⁽¹⁸⁾ Clinicians can classify about 80% of adnexal tumors based on the presence or absence of five benign (B1-5) and five malignant (M1-5) ultrasound features (Figure S4). Adnexal tumors are classified as benign (only B-features apply), malignant (only M-features apply) or inconclusive (no features apply, or both B- and M-features apply). The Simple Rules cannot replace training in ultrasonography and cannot compensate for poor quality ultrasound equipment.

Even basic tools, such as the IOTA terminology (Figure S2)⁽¹⁾ and Simple Rules (Figure S4)⁽¹⁸⁾, must be implemented after robust training. This is evidenced by the poor to moderate interobserver agreement between non-experts and experts when utilizing IOTA terms ($\kappa = 0.39$), and only moderate agreement when utilizing the Simple Rules ($\kappa = 0.50$).⁽²⁷⁾ The Simple Rules are a useful triaging tool for further investigations but are inconclusive in approximately 20% of cases.^(18, 28) In the remaining 80% of cases the benign/malignant category is correctly assigned but they do not offer a predicted risk of malignancy to form the basis of individualized clinical management. This was overcome when The Simple Rules Risk (SRrisk, 2016) calculation was developed incorporating also the type of medical center (oncology center vs other) into the logistic regression model, offering the predictive risk of ovarian cancer ([IOTA Simple Rules and SRrisk calculator to diagnose ovarian cancer | Iota Group](#)).⁽²⁶⁾

2.2. IOTA ADNEX (Assessment of different neoplasias in the adnexa) model

The IOTA group also created the ADNEX model which, in addition to categorising tumors as benign or malignant, offers stratification of malignant tumors into four malignant subtypes: borderline, Stage I and Stage II-IV primary cancers and secondary metastatic tumors.⁽²⁾ Serum CA 125 value improves discrimination between malignant tumor subtypes but has little effect on differentiating between benign and malignant masses.⁽²⁴⁾ The ADNEX model is based on a series of easy-to-assess sonographic features, so less experienced sonographers can potentially use this model more easily as compared to the Simple Rules or Simple Rules Risk model (Table S2). It has been externally validated on almost 5,000 cases of ovarian lesions showing that ADNEX with CA 125 was the best model, in comparison with the Risk of Malignancy Index (RMI), logistic regression model 2 (LR2) and Simple Rules Risk model (SRRisk), reliably distinguishing between benign and malignant lesions (AUC 0.94) with diagnostic performance ranging from AUC 0.75 to 0.98 for different tumor types.⁽²⁴⁾ Both the IOTA certificate and basic ultrasound skills should constitute obligatory requirements for implementation of the ADNEX model in practice. Health economic analysis indicates that the ADNEX model (malignancy risk threshold at $\geq 10\%$), may be cost-effective to guide referral decisions for women with suspected ovarian cancer in secondary care as sensitivity is strongly prioritised over specificity.⁽²³⁾

ADNEX Model parameters	
Clinical parameters	Age
	Oncology center (referral center for gyn-oncol)
Ultrasound parameters	Maximal diameter of the lesion (mm)
	Maximal diameter of the largest solid part (mm)
	Presence of more than 10 locules
	Number of papillary projections
	Presence of acoustic shadows
Analytic parameter (optional)	Presence of ascites (fluid outside pelvis)
	Serum CA-125 (U/ml)

Table S2 ADNEX Model parameters

ADNEX, Assessment of Different Neoplasias in the adnexa.⁽²⁾

2.2. IOTA Simple Descriptors

Some adnexal lesions can be classified easily as benign or malignant just using the IOTA simple descriptors without the need of complex models and access to a computer.⁽²⁹⁾ If a benign simple descriptor applies to a tumor selected for surgery, the tumor is almost certainly benign (>99%), while >92% of tumors corresponding to a malignant simple descriptor are truly malignant.⁽³⁰⁾ In clinical practice, if an ovarian cyst

is checked against the benign descriptors and one of these applies, the mass could be classified as benign (risk of malignancy <1%), if none applies, a mathematical model could be used to estimate the risk of malignancy. For this reason Landolfo et al. conducted a multicenter study including 4905 patients, validating the two-step strategy (benign simple descriptors followed by ADNEX model) for the assessment of adnexal masses.⁽³¹⁾ For this purpose, the authors modified the original benign descriptors⁽²⁹⁾ by limiting the largest tumor diameter to be < 10 cm for all four benign descriptors (Figure S5).⁽³¹⁾ The malignant simple descriptors⁽²⁹⁾ were not used in the two-step strategy. Modified benign simple descriptors were applicable to 37% of the masses with 99.3% of true positives. The two-step strategy based on ADNEX without CA 125 showed an excellent accuracy (AUC= 0.94).⁽³¹⁾

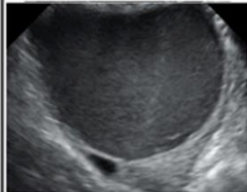
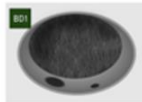
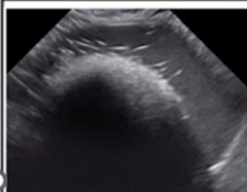
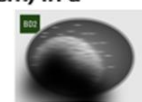
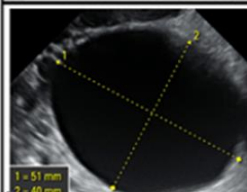



Modified benign descriptors	
	<p>Descriptor 1: unilocular cyst with ground-glass echogenicity and largest diameter < 10 cm, in a premenopausal woman</p> <p>Suggestive of <u>endometrioma</u>.</p> 
	<p>Descriptor 2: unilocular cyst with mixed echogenicity, acoustic shadows and largest diameter <10 cm, in a premenopausal woman</p> <p>Suggestive of <u>benign cystic teratoma</u>.</p> 
	<p>Descriptor 3: unilocular cyst with anechoic cystic fluid, smooth internal walls and largest diameter < 10 cm, in a pre- or postmenopausal woman</p> <p>Suggestive of <u>simple cyst or cystadenoma</u></p> 
	<p>Descriptor 4: all other unilocular cysts with smooth internal walls and largest diameter < 10 cm, in a pre- or postmenopausal woman</p> 

Figure S5 IOTA modified benign simple descriptors. IOTA, International Ovarian Tumor Analysis.⁽³¹⁾

2.3. O-RADS-US lexicon (the Ovarian-Adnexal Reporting and Data System for Ultrasound)

In 2018, the standardized O-RADS US lexicon for ultrasound was published under the direction of the American College of Radiology.⁽³²⁾ The consensus-driven lexicon included all the relevant descriptors and definitions of the characteristic ultrasound appearance of normal ovarian findings and ovarian/para-ovarian/tubal lesions using similar terms to those used in the IOTA models.

2.4. O-RADS-US risk stratification classification and management system

The ultimate objective of O-RADS US lexicon was to stratify the risk of malignancy for consistent follow-up and management in the clinical practice. In 2020, authors introduced six O-RADS categories: O-RADS 0, an incomplete evaluation; O-RADS 1, the physiologic category (normal premenopausal ovary); O-RADS 2, the almost certainly benign category (<1% risk of malignancy); O-RADS 3, lesions with low risk of malignancy (1% to <10%); O-RADS 4, lesions with intermediate risk of malignancy (10% to <50%); and O-RADS 5, lesions with high risk of malignancy (≥50%).⁽³³⁾ Assigning different risk categories using O-RADS descriptors or IOTA-ADNEX model, patients can be selected for individualized treatment pathways. A retrospective study by Hack et al externally validated the O-RADS system, finding that ADNEX performed better than O-RADS ultrasound descriptors, with a statistically different accuracy of 95% vs 91%, respectively (P = 0.01).⁽³⁴⁾ A recent retrospective external validation study and prospective observation study by Timmerman Jr. et al found that both the O-RADS lexicon and the IOTA two-step strategy can be used to stratify patients into risk

groups, with similar sensitivity (92% vs 91% respectively) and specificity (80% vs 85%) for high-risk tumors (i.e. O-RADS 4-5).⁽³⁵⁾ However, the observed malignancy rate in O-RADS 2 category was more than 1% (1.1%), while the corresponding result for the IOTA two-step strategy was 0.9%. Prospective external validation of the O-RADS descriptors and triage system using these O-RADS descriptors and/or two-step strategy is, however, still a subject of ongoing research. At present, the IOTA collaborative group has proposed the use of its two-step strategy approach, assigning one of the O-RADS categories to guide the management and selection of patients for referral to a dedicated gynecological oncology centre (Figure S6).

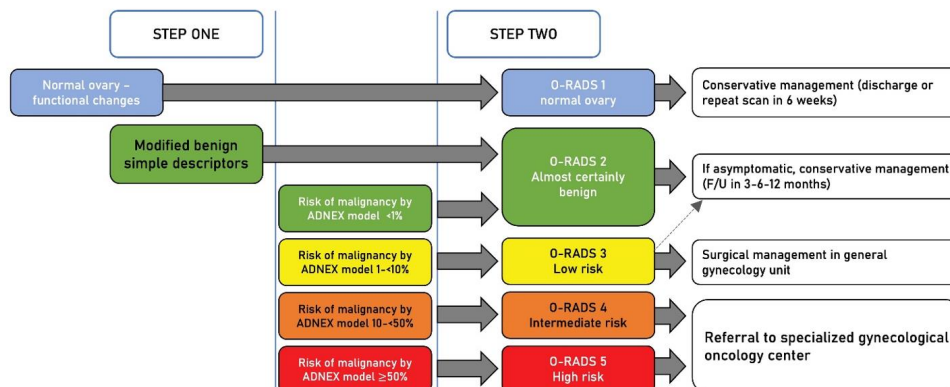


Figure S6 Algorithm for the management of patients with adnexal mass according to the “two-step” strategy based on modified benign simple descriptors and ADNEX. An adnexal lesion is the part of an ovary or an adnexal mass that is judged from an assessment of ultrasound images to be inconsistent with normal physiologic function.⁽¹⁾ Adnexal lesions are assessed as (1) almost certainly benign (modified SD can be applied or ADNEX model calculated risk of malignancy is <1%), which are indicated for conservative management, (2) low-risk of malignancy (1-<10%) when surgery can be performed at level 2 hospital (or conservative management can also be an option), (3) intermediate risk (10 to <50%) and (4) high risk of malignancy (≥50%) where timely referral of patients to gynecologic oncology centre is advised.^(3, 33) SD, simple descriptors. ADNEX, Assessment of Different Neoplasias in the Adnexa; F/U, follow-up.

1.4. Methodology of tubo-ovarian cancer staging and prediction of non-resectability

Systematic ultrasound examination in suspected tubo-ovarian malignancy includes assessment of the primary tumor and evaluation of tumor spread in the pelvis, abdomen, inguinal lymph nodes and other locations as indicated. Further assessment of extra-abdominal sites is required in patients with extensive retroperitoneal lymphadenopathy, extensive diaphragmatic carcinomatosis, malignant hydrothorax, pleural carcinomatosis or other extensive spread (e.g., peripheral lymph nodes infiltrations). A detailed description of all sites affected by tumor, with special emphasis on sites which are not easily resectable, is necessary to plan individualized treatment and predict chances of complete cytoreduction. Incidental findings during preoperative imaging related to tumor complications such as intestinal obstruction, hydronephrosis, venous thrombosis among others should also be noted.⁽³⁶⁾

For staging, a systematic approach combining transvaginal and transabdominal evaluation is recommended to provide information on pelvic and abdominal sites affected by tubo-ovarian cancer spread.⁽³⁷⁾ A detailed review on how to scan gynecological cancers for staging (methodology, terminology, clinical implementation) has been published.⁽⁴⁾ The abdominal sites infiltration which frequently contribute to suboptimal surgical results are summarized in Figure S7. A diagnostic work-up with the best available imaging methods, depending on the local expertise, should be used to assess the disease extent according to the ESGO-ESMO guidelines 2019, to predict resectability (Figure S7).⁽⁹⁾

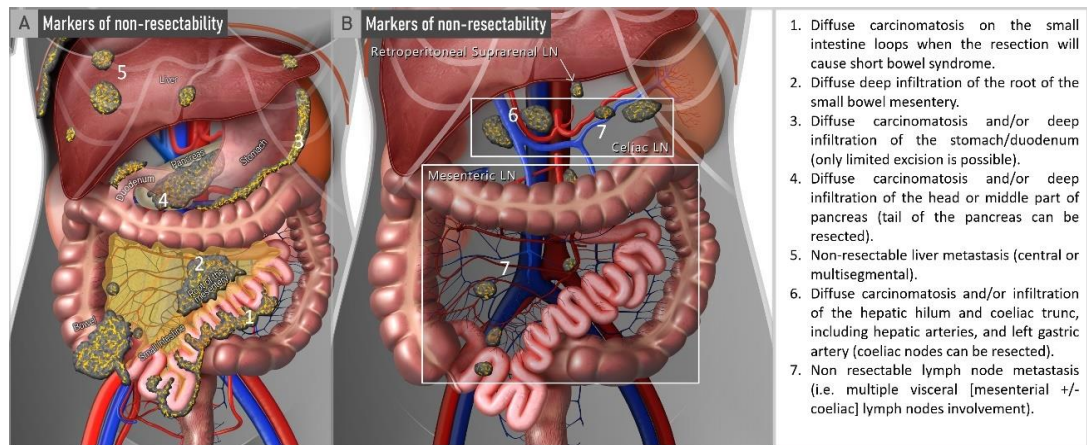


Figure S7 Graphical illustration of the imaging findings indicating non-resectability in ovarian cancer. Non-resectable disease is defined by one or more markers published by the ESMO-ESGO consensus conference in 2019⁽⁹⁾. ESGO, European Society of Gynaecological Oncology; ESMO, European Society for Medical Oncology

Radiological ovarian cancer staging ought to be documented using a systematic checklist (Table S1).

Supplemental references

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