

BENIGN NEOPLASMS OF THE OVARY

(A Review of 381 Cases)

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Benign neoplasms of the ovary, though commoner than their malignant counterparts and amenable to surgical treatment, do not seem to have drawn much attention in the past. A few reports, reviewing such tumours, have been published. Young (1956), Marcial-Rojas and Medina (1958), Jeffcoate (1957), Ullery and Boutselis (1959) and Randall and Hall (1951) present contradictory reports regarding the incidence of various types of benign tumours of the ovary. Beck and Latour (1960) analysed in detail 1,019 such tumours.

We have analysed some features of

381 benign neoplasms of the ovary diagnosed in our department during the last 15 years, which also represent the incidence of their occurrence in this part of the country.

The classification and histological criteria employed for purposes of diagnosis are as described by Novak and Woodruff (1962). Non-neoplastic cysts, however, have not been included.

Observations

Findings are presented in Tables I to IV. Incidence of benign ovarian neoplasms was 77.28% of a total of 493 tumours of the ovary (Table I).

TABLE I
Incidence of benign ovarian neoplasms

Serial No.	Type	Total No.	Percentage (%)
1	2	3	4
(1)	Benign	381	77.28
(2)	Malignant	112	22.72
	Total neoplasms of the Ovary:—	493	

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It is apparent from Table II that cystic tumours constituted the bulk of benign tumours (80.06%) out of which simple serous cystomas, cystadenomas and papillary type predominated (65.62%).

TABLE II
Incidence of various types of benign ovarian neoplasms and incidence of bilateral neoplasms

S. No.	Tumour type	Number	Percentage	Bilateral	
				Number	Percentage
1.	2	3	4	5	6
1	Simple serous cystomas, cystadenomas & papillary type	250	65.62	25	10.00
2.	Pseudomucinous cystadenoma	55	14.44	1	1.81
3.	Dermoid	60	15.75	5	8.33
4.	Fibroma	6	1.58	—	—
5.	Fibroadenoma	1	0.26	—	—
6.	Adenofibroma (papillary type)	1	0.26	—	—
7.	Brenner	3	0.78	—	—
9.	Fibromyoma	4	1.05	—	—
8.	Cavernous angioma	1	0.26	—	—

Age incidence: It is observed that benign ovarian tumours occurred over an age period of 9 years to 75 years. Almost all the types had average age in 4th and 5th decades (Table III).

malignant in an incidence of 5%, 9.60% and 9.09% respectively (Table IV).

Comments

The present study shows that cystic

TABLE III
Age Incidence

S. No.	Tumour type	Age range (years)	Average age (years)
1	2	3	4
1.	Simple serous cystomas, cystadenomas and papillary type	14-75	35.57
2.	Pseudomucinous cystadenoma	13-65	35.21
3.	Dermoid	9-65	32.78
4.	Fibroma	18-42	29.33
5.	Fibroadenoma	45	45
6.	Adenofibroma (papillary type)	50	50
7.	Brenner	30-55	41.66
8.	Fibromyoma	22-65	44.25
9.	Cavernous angioma	35	35

Of all the ovarian neoplasms 22.71% were observed to be malignant. Dermoid, serous and pseudomucinous types were found to be tumours constituted the majority of the benign tumours, of which simple serous cystomas, cystadenomas and papillary type predominated

TABLE IV
Incidence of malignancy in all ovarian neoplasms and in dermoid,
serous and pseudomucinous tumours

S. No.	Type of tumour	Total No. of neoplasms	Tumour type		% Malignant
			Benign	Malignant	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Dermoid	60	57	3	5.00%
2.	Simple serous cystomas cystadenomas & papillary type	250	226	24	9.60%
3.	Pseudomucinous cyst- adenoma	55	50	5	9.09%
	Total neoplasms	493	381	112	22.71%

(65.62%) Beck and Latour (1960) also noted a higher incidence of simple cystoma and serous cystadenoma than that of pseudomucinous cystadenoma. Young (1956); Jeffcoate (1957) and Ullery and Boutselis (1959), however, noted pseudomucinous cystadenoma to be the commonest variety (30-40 per cent of all benign ovarian tumours).

We observed only a small proportion of these tumours to be bilateral, whereas some authors (Jeffcoate, 1957, and Randall and Hall, 1951) believed the ovarian cysts, specially the serous cystadenoma type, to be bilateral. Beck and Latour (1960) also observed a low incidence of bilateral benign cystic ovarian neoplasms.

The ages of the patients ranged from 9 years to 75 years, but the average age for most of them was between 30-50 years. Dermoids, however, were noted to occur in younger age groups. The malignant variety constituted only 22.71%, an incidence similar to that observed by Beck and Latour (1960).

Summary

A series of 381 benign ovarian neoplasms is analysed and the incidence of various neoplasms recorded. Cystic tumours constituted majority of the benign ovarian neoplasms. The average age of women in whom benign ovarian neoplasms occurred was found to be 30-50 years. Frequency of bilateral ovarian neoplasms was found to be very low.

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