American College of Radiology™

O-RADS™ US v2022 — Assessment Categories

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O-RADS Score	Risk Category [IOTA Model]	Lexicon Descriptors		Management	
				Pre-menopausal	Post-Menopausal
0	Incomplete Evaluation [N/A]	Lesion features relevant for risk stratification cannot be accurately characterized due to technical factors		Repeat US study or MRI	
1	Normal Ovary [N/A]	No ovarian lesion		None	
		Physiologic cyst: follicle (≤3 cm) or corpus luteum (typically ≤3 cm)			
2	Almost Certainly Benign [<1%]	Simple cyst	≤3 cm	N/A (see follicle)	None
			>3 cm to 5 cm	None	Follow-up US in 12 months*
			>5 cm but <10 cm	Follow-up US in 12 months*	
		Unilocular, smooth, non–simple cyst (internal echoes and/or incomplete septations) – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – – Bilocular, smooth cyst	≤3 cm	None	Follow-up US in 12 months*
			>3 cm but <10 cm	Follow-up US in 6 months*	
		Typical benign ovarian lesion (see "Classic Benign Lesions" table)	<10 cm	See "Classic Benign Lesions" table for descriptors and management	
		Typical benign extraovarian lesion (see "Classic Benign Lesions" table)	Any size		
3	Low Risk [1 – <10%]	Typical benign ovarian lesion (see "Classic Benign Lesions" table), ≥10 cm		Imaging: • If not surgically excised, consider follow-up US within 6 months** • If solid, may consider US specialist (if available) *or* MRI (with O-RADS MRI score)† Clinical: Gynecologist	
		Uni- or bilocular cyst, smooth, ≥10 cm			
		Unilocular cyst, irregular, any size			
		Multilocular cyst, smooth, <10 cm, CS <4			
		Solid lesion, ± shadowing, smooth, any size, CS = 1			
		Solid lesion, shadowing, smooth, any size, CS 2–3			
4	Intermediate Risk [10 – <50%]	Bilocular cyst without solid component(s)	Irregular, any size, any CS	Imaging: Options include: • US specialist (if available) *or* • MRI (with O–RADS MRI score)† *or* • Per gyn–oncologist protocol Clinical: Gynecologist with gyn–oncologist consultation *or* solely by gyn–oncologist	
		Multilocular cyst without solid component(s)	Smooth, ≥10 cm, CS <4		
			Smooth, any size, CS 4		
			Irregular, any size, any CS		
		Unilocular cyst with solid component(s)	<4 pps or solid component(s) not considered a pp; any size		
		Bi- or multilocular cyst with solid component(s)	Any size, CS 1–2		
		Solid lesion, non-shadowing	Smooth, any size, CS 2–3		
5	High Risk [≥50%]	Unilocular cyst, ≥4 pps, any size, any CS		Imaging: Per gyn-oncologist protocol Clinical: Gyn-oncologist	
		Bi- or multilocular cyst with solid component(s), any size, CS 3–4			
		Solid lesion, ± shadowing, smooth, any size, CS 4			
		Solid lesion, irregular, any size, any CS			
		Ascites and/or peritoneal nodules††			

GLOSSARY

Smooth and irregular: refer to **inner** walls/septation(s) for **cystic** lesions, and **outer** contour for **solid** lesions; irregular inner wall for cysts = <3 mm in height	Solid: excludes blood products and dermoid contents; solid lesion = ≥80% solid; solid component = protrudes ≥3 mm (height) into cyst lumen off wall or septation
Shadowing: must be diffuse or broad to qualify; excludes refractive artifact	pp = papillary projection; subtype of solid component surrounded by fluid on 3 sides
CS = color score; degree of intralesional vascularity; 1 = none, 2 = minimal flow, 3 = moderate flow, 4 = very strong flow	Bilocular = 2 locules; multilocular = ≥3 locules; bilocular smooth cysts have a lower risk of malignancy, regardless of size or CS
Postmenopausal = ≥1 year amenorrhea (early: <5 yrs; late: ≥5 yrs); if uncertain or uterus surgically absent, use age >50 years (early = >50 yrs but <55 yrs, late = ≥55 yrs)	

*Shorter imaging follow-up may be considered in some scenarios (eg, clinical factors). If smaller (≥10–15% decrease in average linear dimension), no further surveillance. If stable, follow-up US at 24 months from initial exam. If enlarging (≥10–15% increase in average linear dimension), consider follow-up US at 12 and 24 months from initial exam, then management per gynecology. For changing morphology, reassess using lexicon descriptors. **Clinical management with gynecology as needed**.

**There is a paucity of evidence for defining the optimal duration or interval for imaging surveillance. Shorter follow-up may be considered in some scenarios (eg, clinical factors). If stable, follow-up at 12 and 24 months from initial exam, then as clinically indicated. For changing morphology, reassess using lexicon descriptors.

† MRI with contrast has higher specificity for solid lesions, and cystic lesions with solid component(s).

†† Not due to other malignant or non-malignant etiologies; specifically, must consider other etiologies of ascites in categories 1–2.

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O-RADS™ US v2022 — Classic Benign Lesions

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Lesion	Descriptors and Definitions For any atypical features on initial or follow-up exam, use other lexicon descriptors (eg, unilocular, multilocular, solid, etc.)	Management If sonographic features are only suggestive, and overall assessment is uncertain, consider follow-up US within 3 months
Typical Hemorrhagic Cyst	Unilocular cyst, **no internal vascularity*,** and at least one of the following: • Reticular pattern (fine, thin intersecting lines representing fibrin strands) • Retractile clot (intracystic component with straight, concave, or angular margins)	Imaging: ○ Premenopausal: • ≤5 cm: None • >5 cm but <10 cm: Follow-up US in 2–3 months ○ Early postmenopausal (<5 years): • <10 cm, options to confirm include: ▪ Follow-up US in 2–3 months *or* ▪ US specialist (if available) *or* ▪ MRI (with O–RADS MRI score) ○ Late postmenopausal (≥5 years): • Should not occur; recategorize using other lexicon descriptors. Clinical: Gynecologist**
Typical Dermoid Cyst	Cystic lesion with ≤3 locules**, no internal vascularity*,** and at least one of the following: • Hyperechoic component(s) (diffuse or regional) with shadowing • Hyperechoic lines and dots • Floating echogenic spherical structures	Imaging: ○ ≤3 cm: May consider follow-up US in 12 months† ○ >3 cm but <10 cm: If not surgically excised, follow-up US in 12 months† Clinical: Gynecologist**
Typical Endometrioma	Cystic lesion with ≤3 locules, **no internal vascularity*,** homogeneous low–level/ground glass echoes, and smooth inner walls/septation(s) • ± Peripheral punctate echogenic foci in wall	Imaging: ○ Premenopausal: • <10 cm: If not surgically excised, follow-up US in 12 months† ○ Postmenopausal: • <10 cm and initial exam**,** options to confirm include ▪ Follow–up US in 2–3 months *or* ▪ US specialist (if available) *or* ▪ MRI (with O-RADS MRI score) Then, if not surgically excised, recommend follow-up US in 12 months† Clinical: Gynecologist**
Typical Paraovarian Cyst	Simple cyst separate from the ovary	Imaging: None Clinical: Gynecologist**
Typical Peritoneal Inclusion Cyst	Fluid collection with ovary at margin or suspended within that conforms to adjacent pelvic organs • ± Septations (representing adhesions)	Imaging: None Clinical: Gynecologist**
Typical Hydrosalpinx	Anechoic, fluid–filled tubular structure • ± Incomplete septation(s) (representing folds) • ± Endosalpingeal folds (short, round projections around inner walls)	

*Excludes vascularity in walls or intervening septation(s)

**As needed for management of clinical issues

† There is a paucity of evidence for defining the need, optimal duration or interval of timing for surveillance. If stable, consider US follow-up at 24 months from initial exam, then as clinically indicated. Specifically, evidence does support **an increased risk of malignancy in endometriomas following menopause and those present greater than 10 years.**