

# Cross-Sectional Imaging of the Uterus and Ovaries

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Radiology Review Course  
Seattle, WA  
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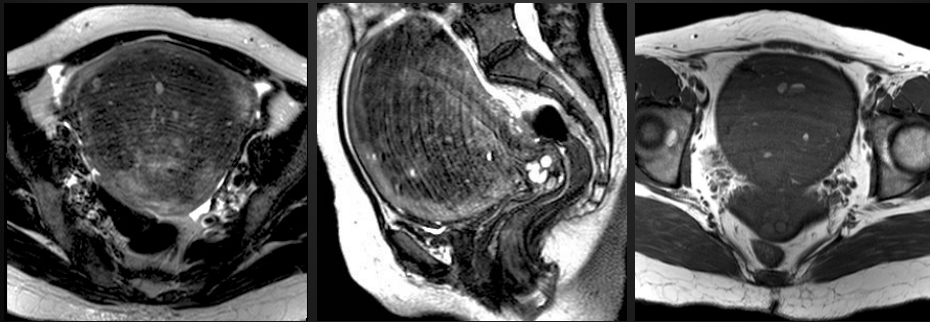


## Why MR?

- Problematic adnexal masses
- Congenital anomalies
- Uterine cancer staging
- Benign disease - uterus
  - Adenomyosis, endometriosis
  - Fibroids
- Lower GU tract cysts

# Case 1

# Case 1



T2

T2

T1

## Which is true for this diagnosis:

- A. Thickened junctional zone is a sensitive finding
- B. T2 dark signal in this entity is related to associated fibroids
- C. T2-bright microcysts are a highly specific finding
- D. Junctional zone thickness is unrelated to menstrual cycle



## Dx: Adenomyosis

- Intrauterine ectopic endometrial tissue
- Histopathology:
  - Endometrial cells > 2.5mm from endometrial/myometrial interface
  - Reactive myometrial hypertrophy

## Types of Adenomyosis

- Diffuse
- Focal
- Adenomyoma

## Demographics

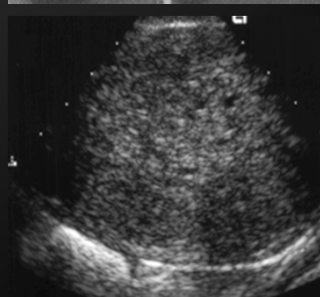
- Premenopausal women
- Risk factors
  - Multiparity
  - prior endouterine procedures
- Prevalence 30%
- Assoc: fibroids, endometriosis

## Clinical

- Often asymptomatic; menorrhagia, pain
- Clinical dx challenging
- Treatment
  - D & C, hysterectomy, embolization

## Imaging Diagnosis

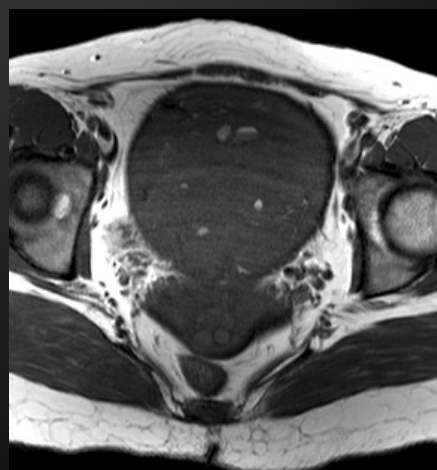
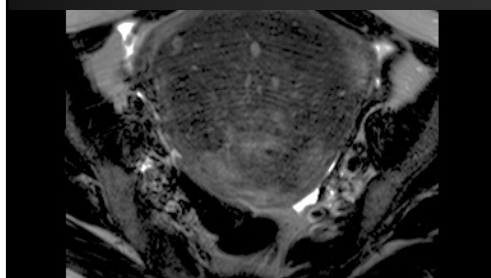
- HSG: nonspecific
  - Single or multiple cavities
- US: normal can exclude
  - poor definition of canal
  - posterior wall thickening
  - myometrial cysts
  - \*ddx w fibroids



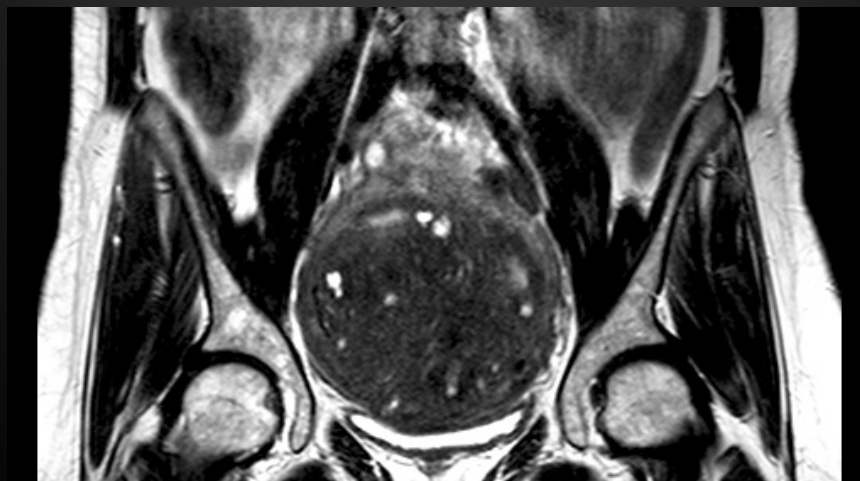
## MR findings

- Direct signs
  - Microcysts
  - Adenomyoma
- Indirect signs
  - JZ thickening
  - Ill-defined JZ

## MR Direct Sign: Microcysts



## MR Direct Sign: Adenomyoma



<b>Adenomyoma</b>	<b>Fibroid</b>
Microcysts	None
None	Large peripheral vessels
Ill-defined	Well-demarcated
Elliptical along long axis	Round
Rare	Common

## Indirect signs

- Thickened junctional zone
- Several others not as well studied

## Indirect Sign: Thickened JZ

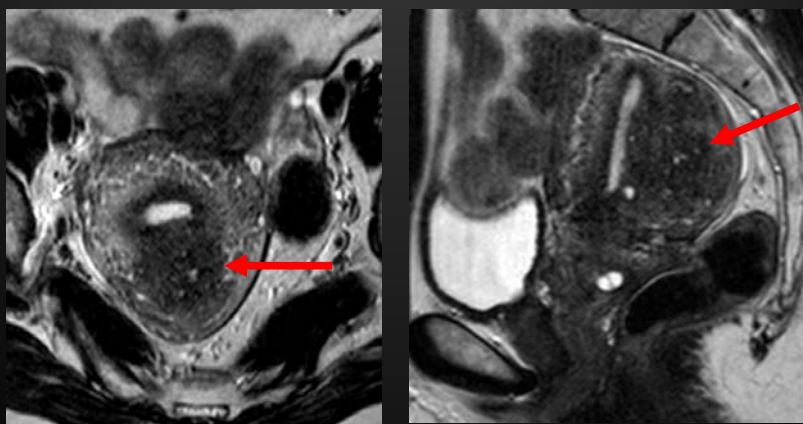
- Scan in secretory phase
- Normal 5-8mm
- Abnormal > 12mm
  - 96% specific, only 63% sensitive



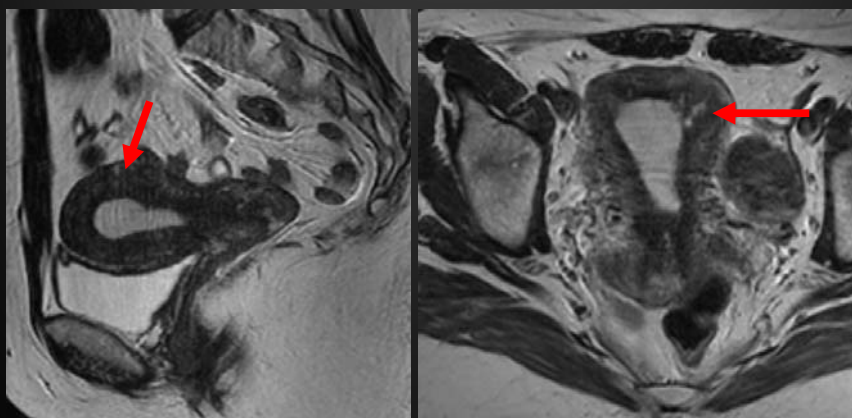
## Overall Performance of MR

- Sens 70-86%
- Spec 86-93%
- Accuracy 88%

## Companion Case 1



## Companion Case 2



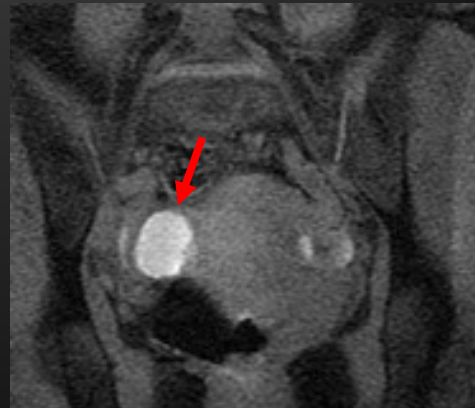
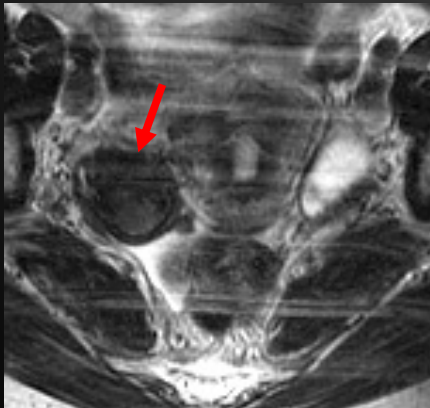
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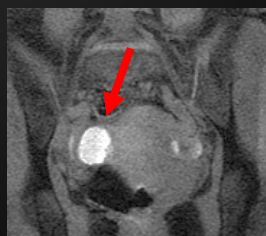
## Case 2

## Case 2



Which is true for this diagnosis:

- A. MRI is the reference standard for diagnosis
- B. Most symptoms are caused by superficial disease
- C. T2 shading refers to layering of blood products, protein, and viscous fluid in a cyst
- D. Hematosalpinx in a nonpregnant patient is relatively specific for this disease



Dx: Endometrioma

## Endometriosis

- Functional glands and stroma outside uterus
- Overall prevalence 5-10%
- Uncertain pathogenesis – retrograde menstruation

## Clinical

- Infertility
- Pain

## Gross Pathology – 3 types

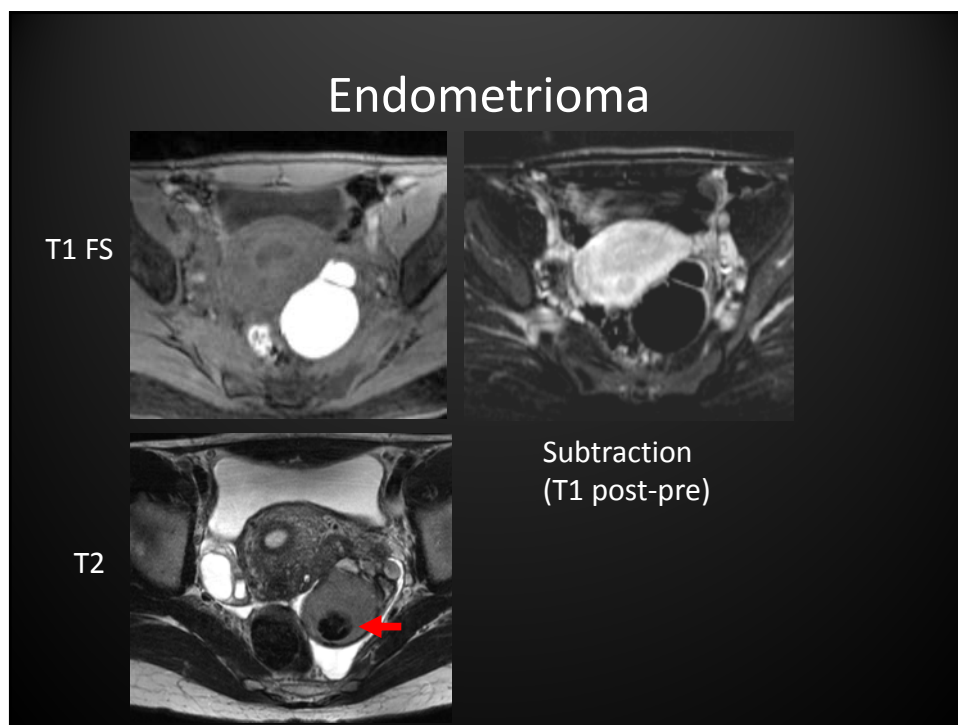
- Superficial disease
- Ovarian
- Deep (solid infiltrating)
  - > 5mm below serosal surface

## MR – Superficial Disease

- Usually not visible

## MR – Ovarian Disease/Endometrioma

- Multiple T1 bright lesions +/- T2 shading
  - mod sens, highly spec
- Single T1 bright lesion
  - T2 shading: sens, not spec
  - T2 dark spots: specific, not sensitive

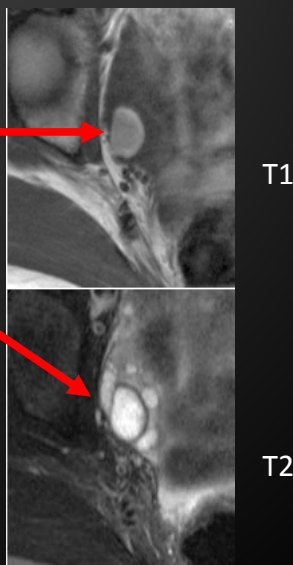


## Malignant Transformation

- < 2% (clear cell, endometrioid)
- MR signs
  - \*\*enhancing nodule
  - growth
  - loss of T2 shading

## DDx: hemorrhagic cyst

- Rarely multiple
- Not as T1 bright
- Less T2 shading
- No T2 dark spots
- Resolves

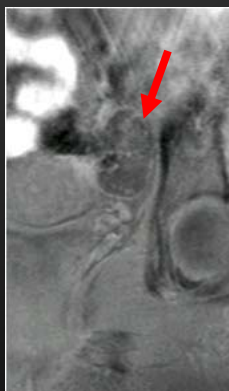




## DDx: mature cystic teratoma



T1



T1 FS

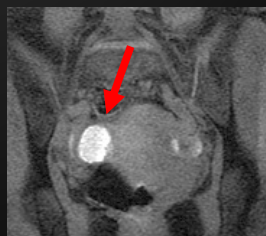
## MR: Deep Infiltrating Disease

- Solid fibrotic masses, easy to miss
- T2 dark w/ T2 bright foci
- Common locations
  - Uterosacral ligament
  - Ant rectosigmoid
  - Bladder



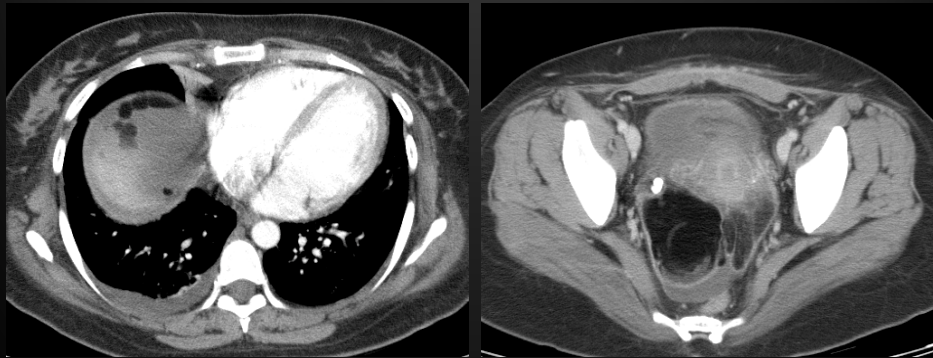
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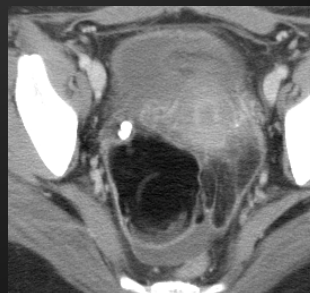
Case 3

Case 3



## Which is true for this diagnosis:

- A. The Rokitansky nodule is a sign of malignant degeneration
- B. Rupture is the most common complication
- C. T1 bright appearance of these lesions can be differentiated from hemorrhage by STIR
- D. Malignant degeneration is rare



## Dx: Mature Cystic Teratoma

- Younger age group
- Very common...
  - 20% all adult ovarian masses
  - 50% all pediatric adnexal mass
  - Most common adnexal mass removed at surgery

## Pathology

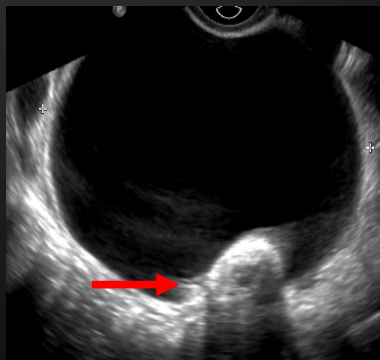
- Contains > 1/3 germ cell elements
- Sebum-filled unilocular cyst
- Rokitansky protuberance
- Bilateral 10-15%

## Complications

- Torsion: most common (15%)
- Rupture: <1%, granulomatous peritonitis
- Malignant degeneration: <1%, squamous

## US findings

- Cystic lesion with Rokitansky nodule
- Diffusely or partially echogenic mass
- Pitfalls...



## CT/MR

- CT
  - Cyst with fat diagnostic
  - Ca++ nonspecific
- MR
  - T1 bright
  - T2 variable, usu follows fat
  - STIR vs freq-selective FS
  - Tiny amount of fat – chemical shift

# Mature Cystic Teratoma

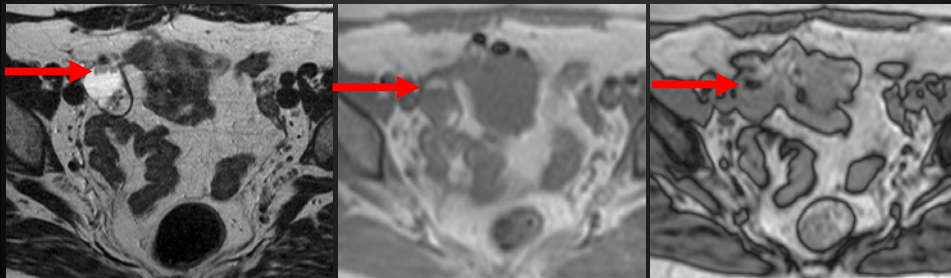


T1 IP

T1 OP

T1 FS

# Mature Cystic Teratoma



T2

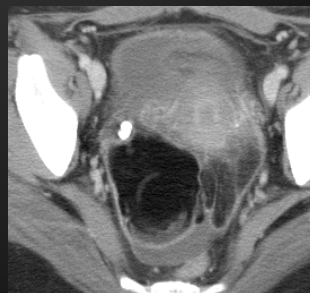
T1 IP

T1 OP

T2

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## Why are adnexal masses indeterminate at US?

- Too large
- Site of origin?
- Indeterminate features: solid-cystic, solid
  - most are common benign lesions



## Why MR?

- Accuracy: MR > Doppler US (.91 vs .78)
- Bayesian analysis - ovarian mass with indeterminate gray scale US followed by subsequent imaging
  - Pre MR prob → post Gd-MR prob malignancy
    - premenopausal 25% → 80%
    - postmenopausal 63% → 95%

## Benign vs Malignant - Simplified

- Pathognomonic lesions
- Benign features
- Malignant features

## Pathognomonic

- Endometrioma
- Simple cyst
- Mature cystic teratoma
- Hemorrhagic cyst

## Benign Features

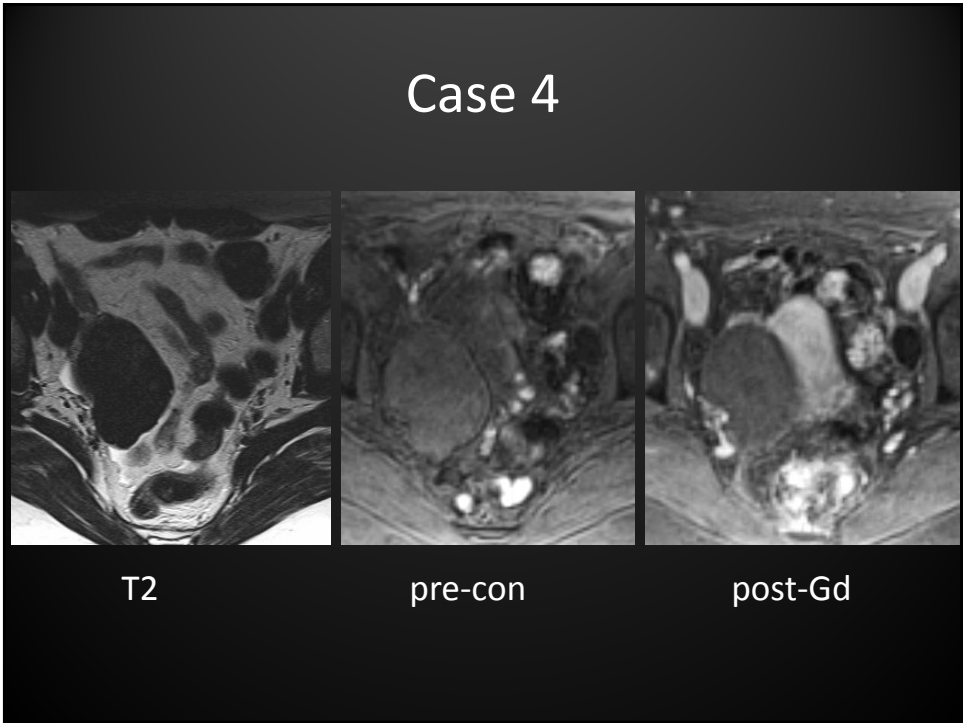
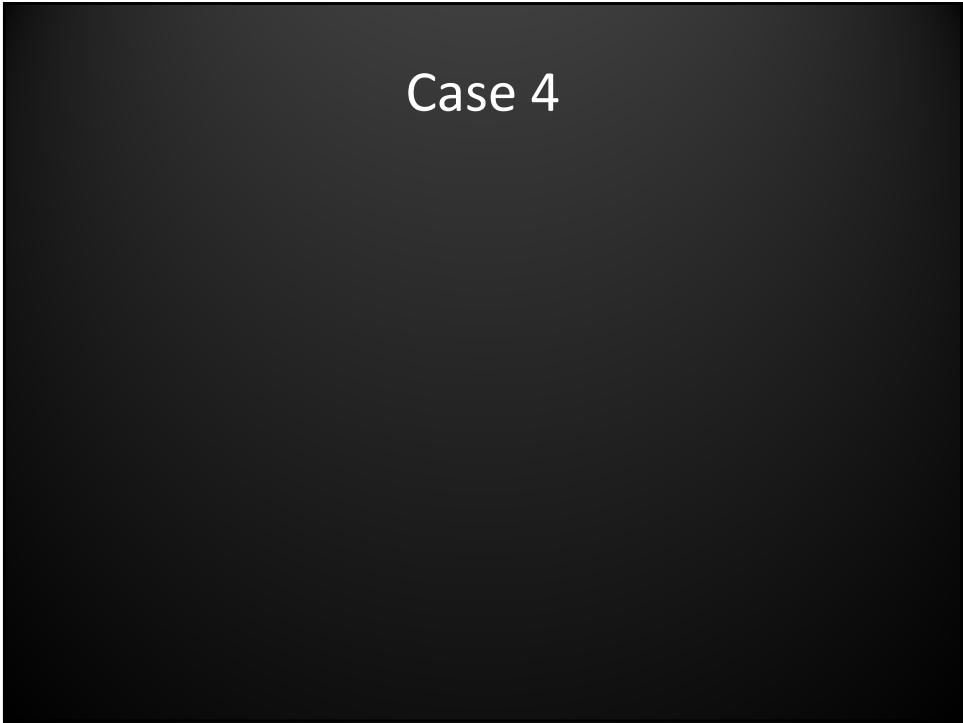
- Absence of solid tissue
- No wall enhancement
- Solid tissue
  - homogeneously T2 very dark
  - hypo on DWI
  - little to no enhancement

## Malignant Features

- Solid tissue (weak)
- Gd
  - None/minimal - benign
  - Moderate – indeterminate
  - Marked – high prob
- Implants – definite

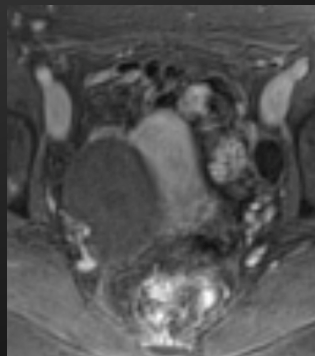
## Bottom Line

- No solid tissue or wall enhancement = benign
- Solid tissue = r/o malignant *unless*
  - T2 very dark
  - no to minimal enhancement

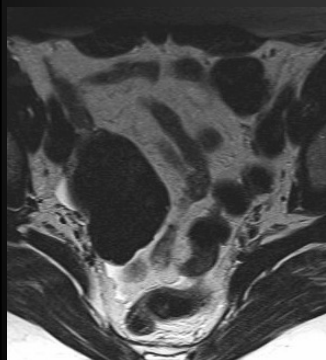


## Which is false regarding this diagnosis?

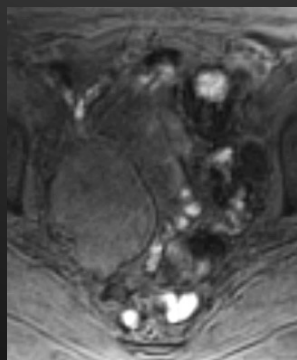
- A. These are usually malignant lesions
- B. These can be hormonally active
- C. These are the most common solid primary ovarian tumors in asymptomatic women
- D. They can be associated with pleural effusions and ascites



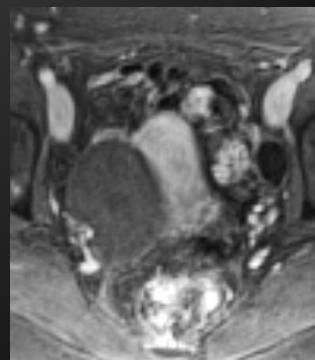
No solid tissue = benign  
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T2



pre-con



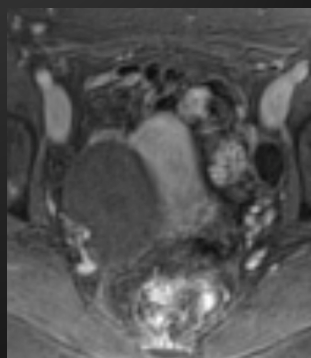
post-Gd

## Fibroma, Fibrothecoma, Thecoma

- Spectrum of benign sex-cord stromal tumors
- Fibroma most common, bilateral 10%
- Malignant <1%
- Meigs' syndrome
  - Ascites and (R) pleural effusion
  - Most often a/w fibroma
- MR: T2 very dark, minimal enhancement

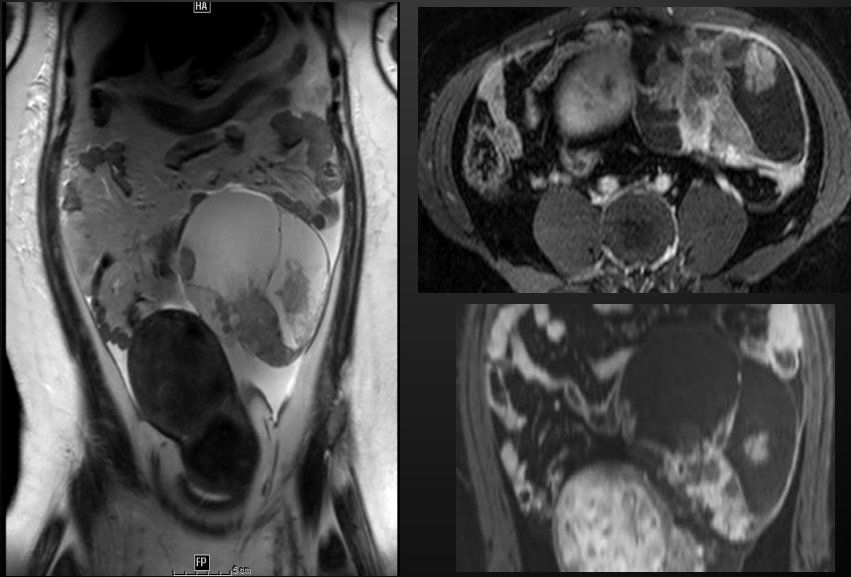
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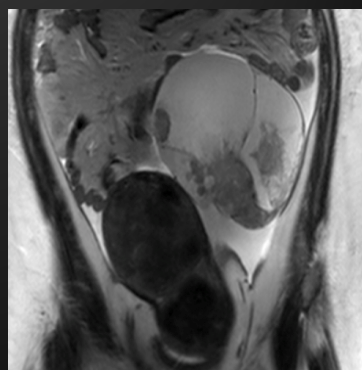
# Case 5

# Case 5



## Which is true of ovarian malignancy:

- A. Ovarian epithelial neoplasms do not actually arise from native ovarian tissue
- B. Mucinous epithelial neoplasms are the most common primary ovarian malignancy
- C. Serous lesions are rarely bilateral
- D. OCPs increase the risk of ovarian cancer



## Primary Ovarian Malignancy

- Epithelial 90%
- Rest are germ cell and stromal



## Epithelial CA origin - ? ovary

- Serous - fallopian tube
- Mucinous – endocervical or GI
- Clear cell and endometrioid – endometrium
- Brenner – transitional cell

## New theory – extraovarian origin

- Serous – fimbrial CA → ovary
- Endometrioid/clear cell – retrograde menstruation
- Mucinous/Brenner – paraovarian epithelial rests

## Ovarian cancer – risk factors

### Decreased risk

multiparity  
lactation  
OCP  
tubal ligation

### Increased risk

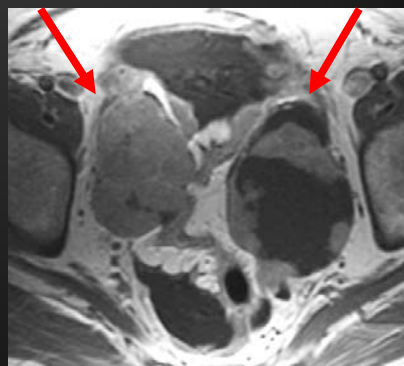
family hx  
nulliparity  
endometriosis

## Ovarian Malignancy Prophylaxis

- Traditional: BSO
  - but: increase in all cause mortality and CAD
- Alternative: post-reproductive salpingectomy with ovarian conservation

## Serous

- Most common ovarian CA
- 60% benign, 25% malignant
- 85% bilateral



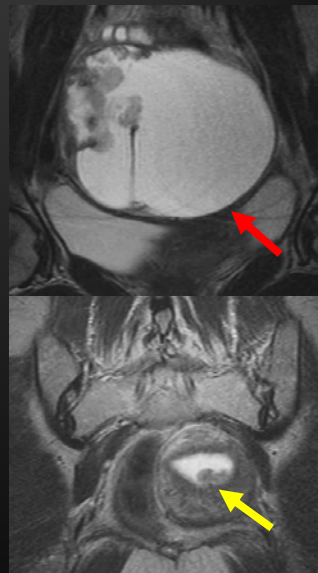
## Mucinous

- >90% benign, unilateral
- DDx metastatic mucinous lesions



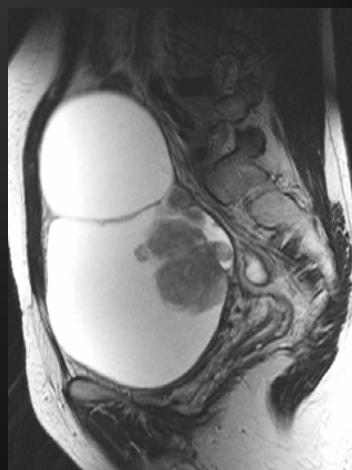
## Endometrioid

- 10-20% of ovarian ca
- Best prognosis
- Associations
  - Endometrial CA – 15-20%
  - HNPCC
  - Endometriosis



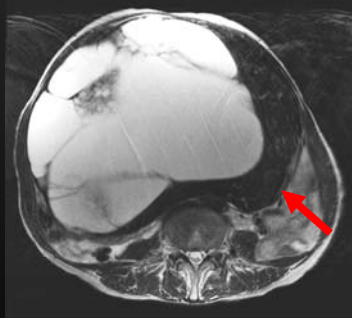
## Clear Cell

- 5% of ovarian carcinomas
- Strongest a/w endometriosis
- Highly aggressive



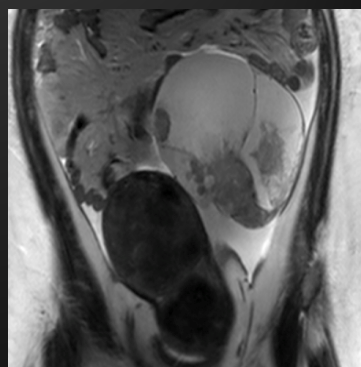
## Brenner (Transitional Cell) Tumor

- Rarely malignant
- Large unilateral solid or complex mass - T2 dark solid components
- Assoc with another ovarian tumor 30%, often mucinous



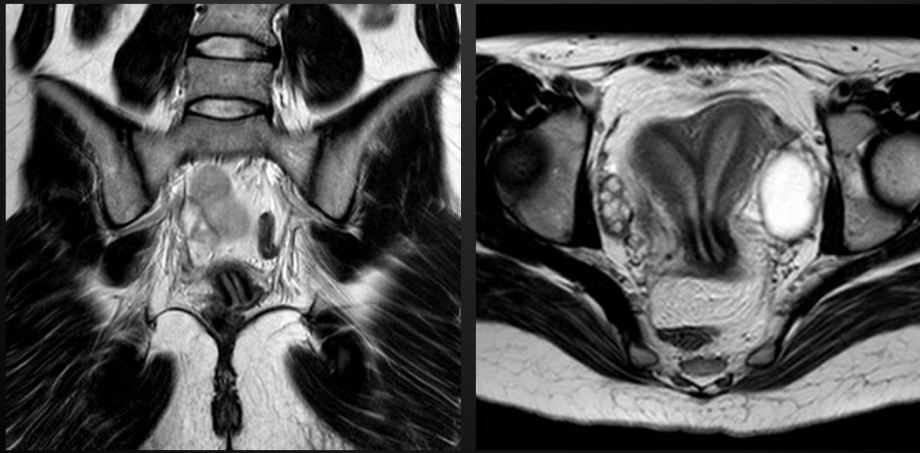
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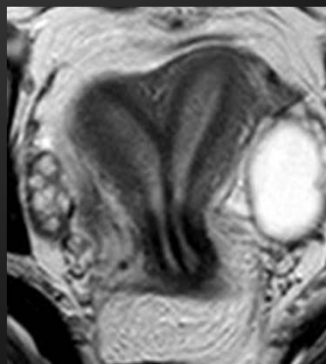
# Case 6

# Case 6



Which is true regarding this anomaly?

- A. It is the most common congenital uterine anomaly
- B. It is due to failure of normal fusion of the Mullerian ducts
- C. It is associated with difficulty in conceiving
- D. Surgical treatment is not particularly effective in reducing miscarriage rates



Dx: Septate Uterus

## Congenital Uterine Anomalies

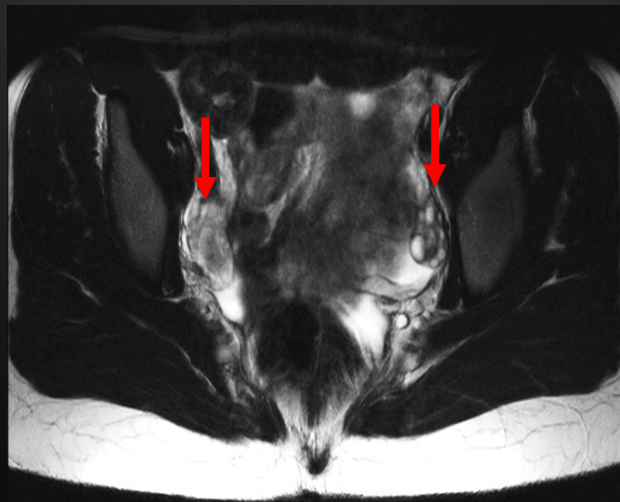
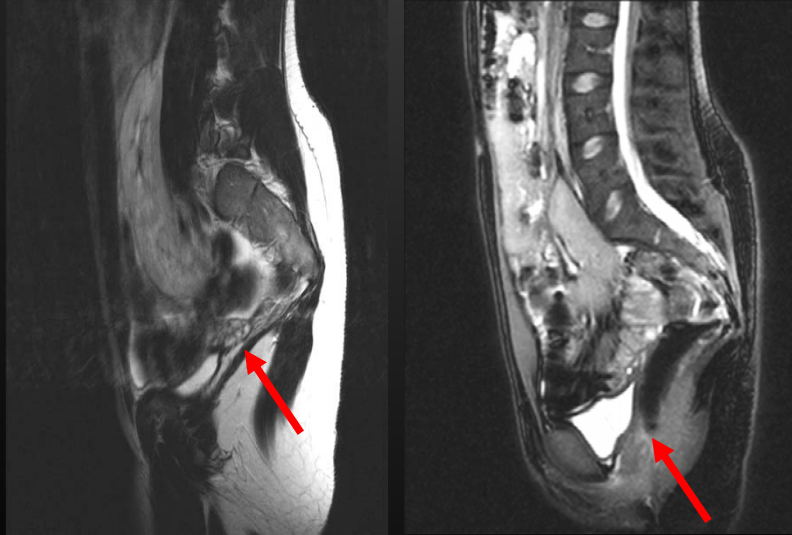
- Common: 4-7%
- Traditional classification based on AFS, push for new classification with less limitations in Europe – CONUTA (CONgenital Uterine Anomalies)

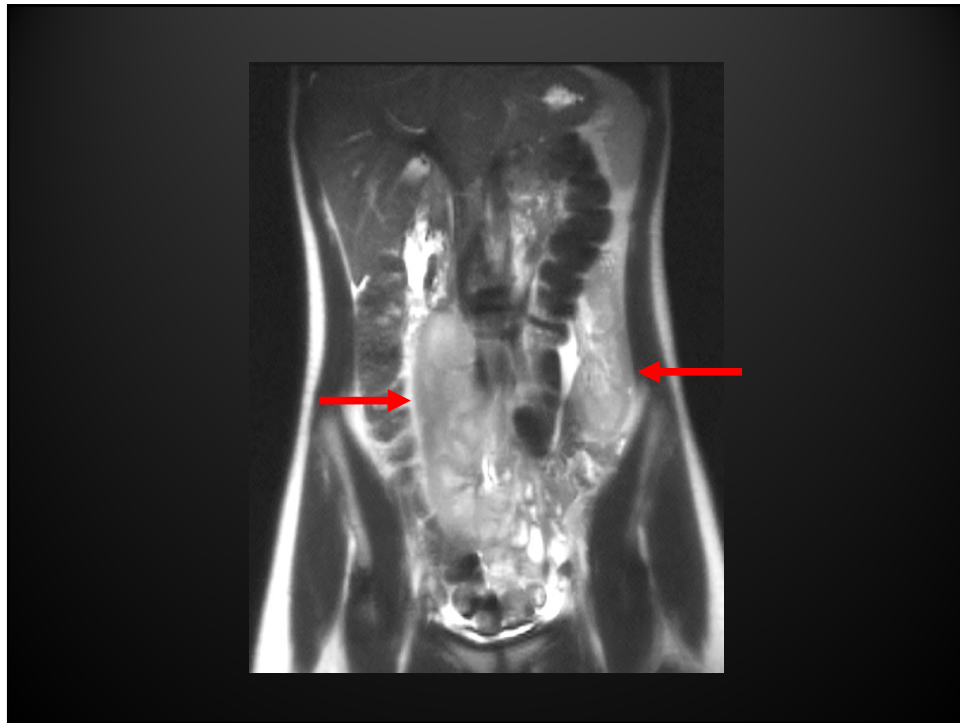
## Embryology

- Mullerian ducts fuse to form uterus, tubes, and upper 2/3 vagina
- Three steps/points of failure in this process
  - Formation
  - Fusion
  - Resorption uterovaginal septum



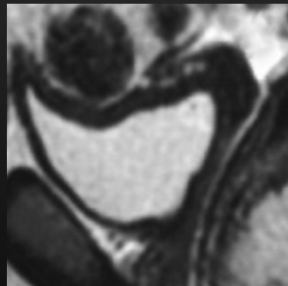
## Failure of Formation: Agenesis





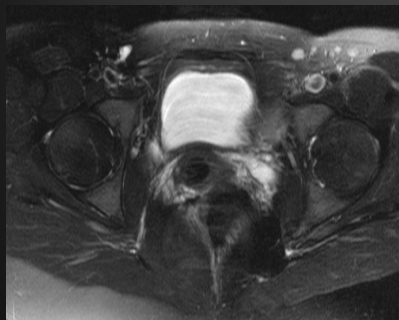
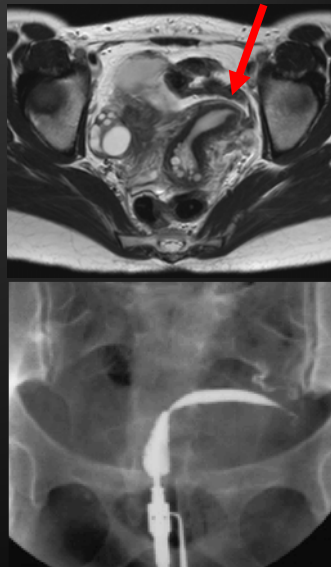
## Mayer-Rokitansky-Kuster-Hauser Syndrome

- 1/5000
- 2<sup>nd</sup> most common cause primary amenorrhea
- Assoc with renal anomalies, Klippel-Feil

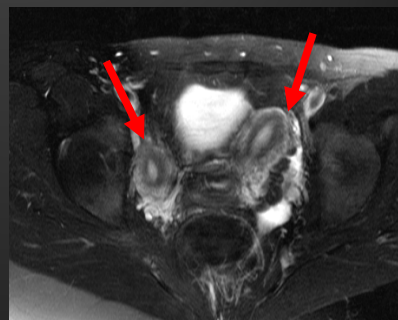


## Failure of Formation: Unicornuate

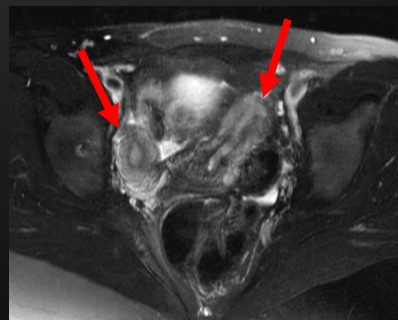
- 20% of uterine anomalies
- “banana-shaped” horn and rudimentary horn
- 40% assoc renal anomalies ipsilateral to rudimentary horn
- Treat only if rudimentary horn w/ functioning endometrium
  - ruptured pregnancy, obstruction, pain



Left: noncommunicating cavity (functioning)

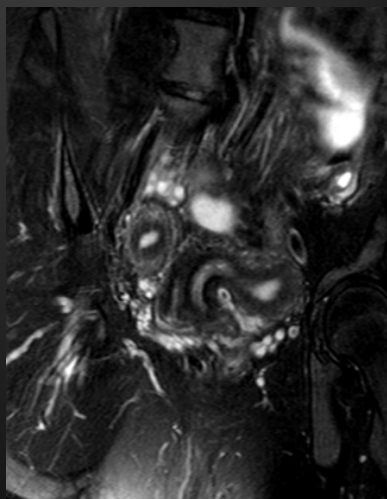
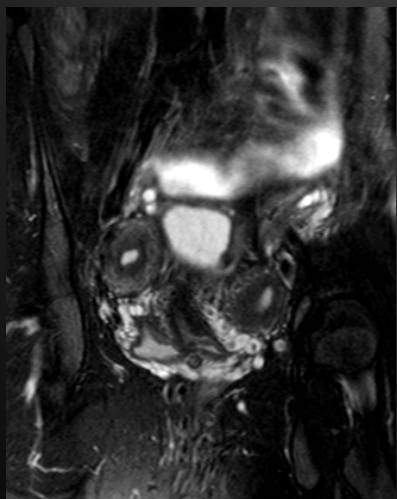
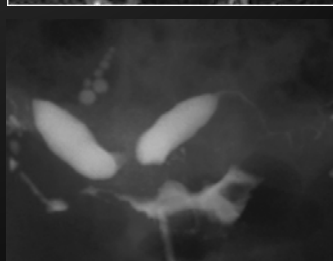


Right: rudimentary horn



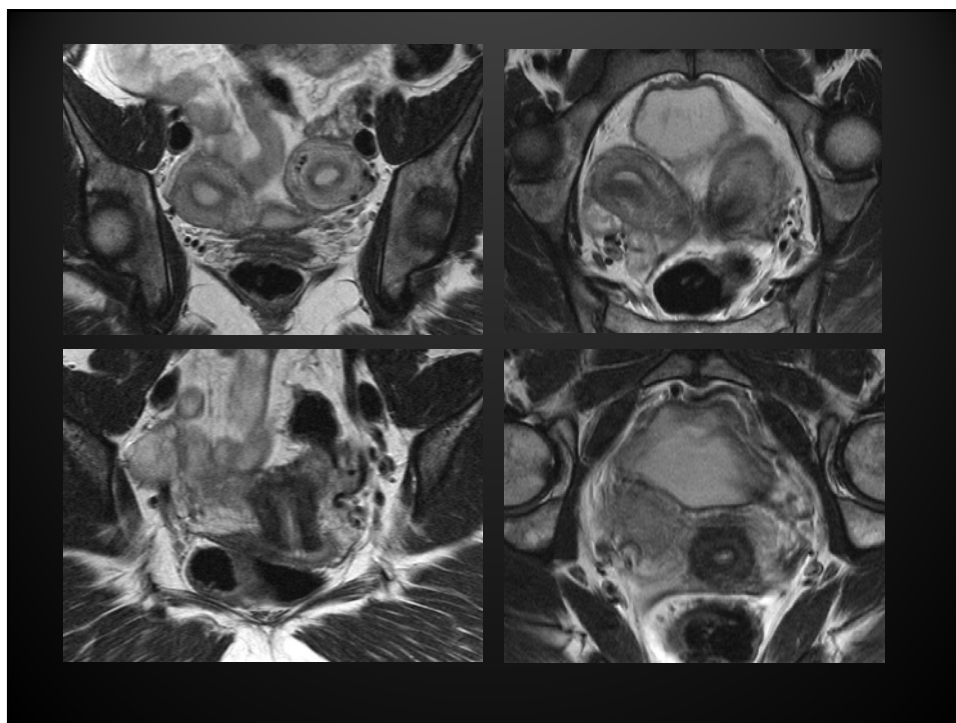
## Failure of Fusion: Didelphys

- Complete failure – 2 uteri, cvx
- Vaginal septum – 75%
- Often asymptomatic
- MR diagnosis:
  - Widely divergent uterine horns and cervixes
  - Fundal depression >1cm
  - Intercornual distance >4cm



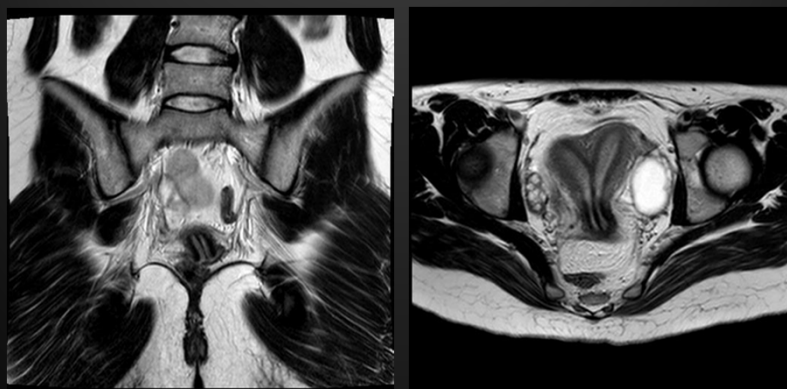
## Failure of Fusion: Bicornuate

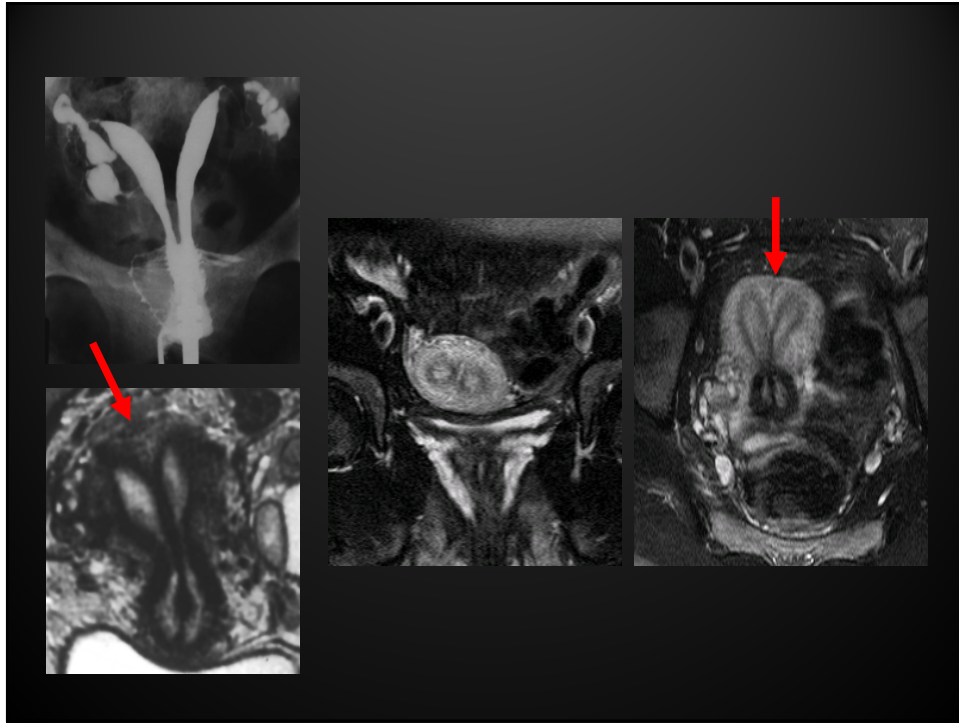
- Partial nonfusion
- Bicollis: to ext os
- Unicollis: to int os
- No tx → ddx septate
- Imaging similar to didelphys



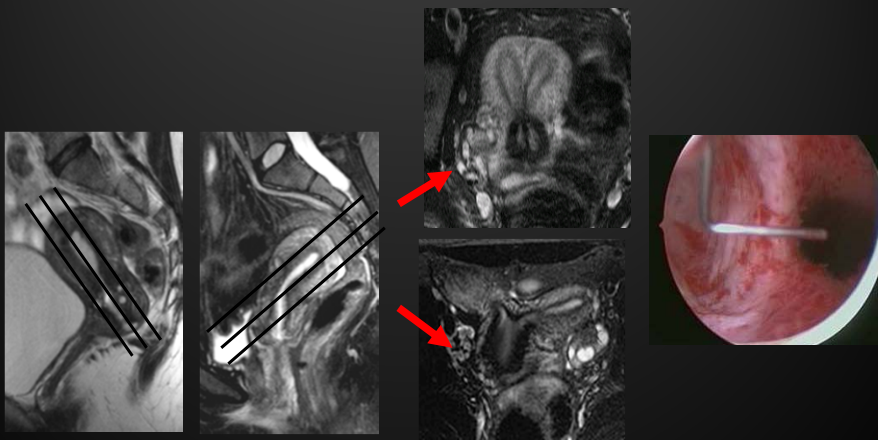
## Failure of Resorption: Septate

- Most common 50%
- Septum fibrous or fibromuscular
- High rate of preg loss, resection is very effective





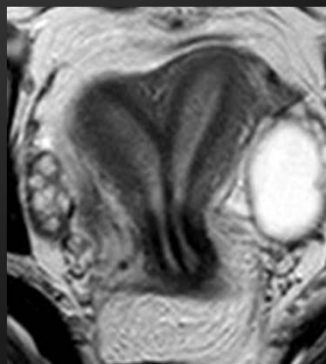
## Bicornuate vs. Septate



Important distinction  
Must use oblique coronal sequence

Which is true regarding this anomaly?

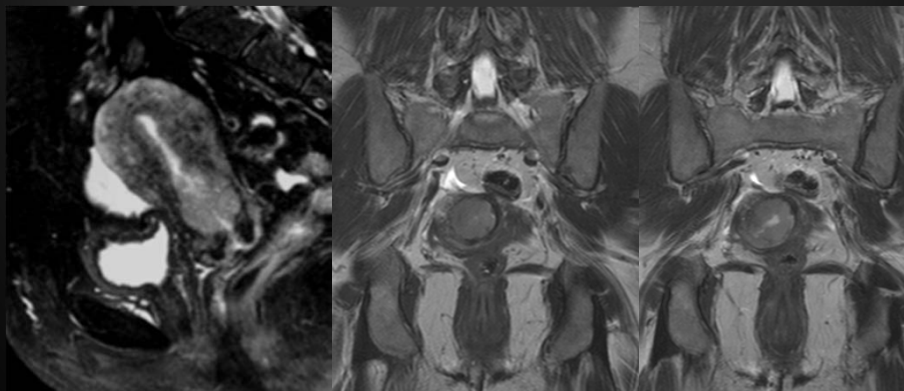
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Case 7

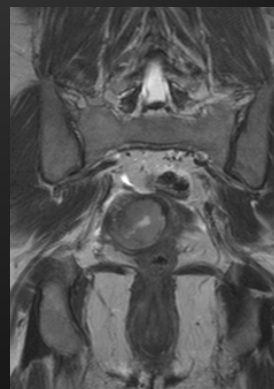


## Case 7



Which is true of this diagnosis:

- A. Intact fibromuscular stromal ring has a 100% negative predictive value for parametrial invasion
- B. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most common gynecologic malignancy in the world
- C. Adenocarcinoma is the most common cell type
- D. Hydronephrosis implies stage IIB



Dx: Cervical CA stage IIB

## Cervical Cancer

- Most common gyn and 2<sup>nd</sup> most female common cancer worldwide ( #3 gyn in US)
- FIGO staging is clinical, not surgical/path
- Accuracy MR vs clinical staging:
  - tumor size 93% vs 60%
  - parametrial invasion 93% vs 40%

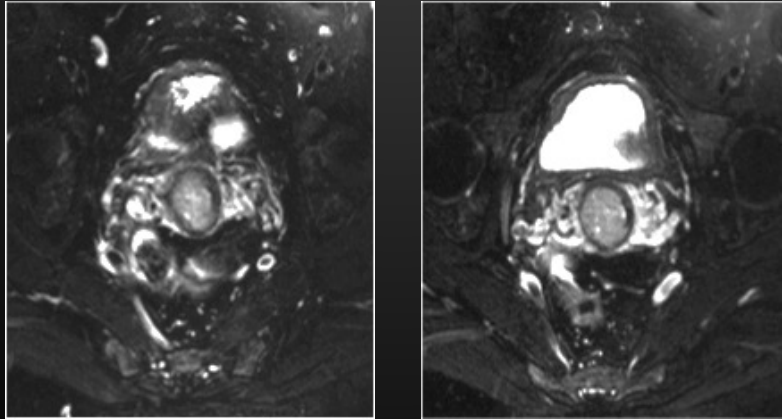
## Revised FIGO

- I – within cervix
- II
  - IIA – upper 2/3 vagina
  - IIB – parametrial invasion
- III
  - IIIA – lower 1/3 vagina
  - IIIB – pelvic sidewall
- IV
  - Adjacent organs (inc bladder/rectum)
  - Distant organs

## Revised FIGO

- I – within cervix
  - II
    - IIA – upper 2/3 vagina
    - IIB – parametrial invasion
  - III
    - IIIA – lower 1/3 vagina
    - IIIB – pelvic sidewall
  - IV
    - Adjacent organs (inc bladder/rectum)
    - Distant organs
- Surgery (< 4 cm) vs  
Chemorad (> 4cm)
- 
- Chemorad

## Cervical cancer - stage I



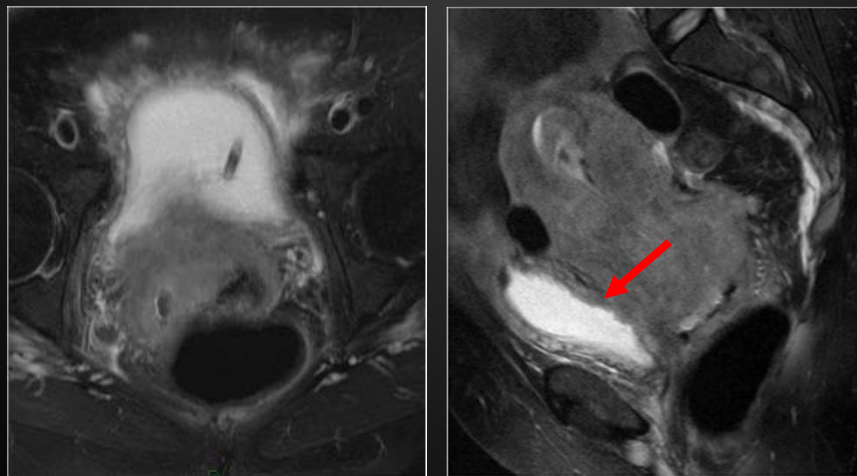
## Cervical cancer - stage IIA



## Cervical cancer - stage IIB

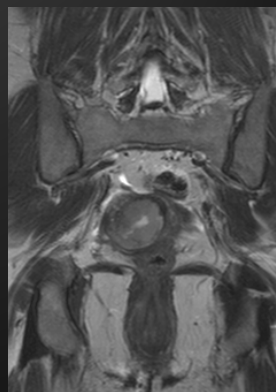


## Cervical cancer - stage IVa



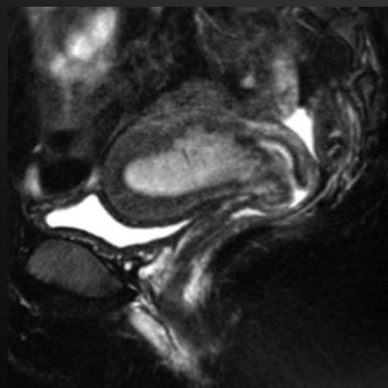
Which is true of this diagnosis:

- A. Intact fibromuscular stromal ring has a 100% negative predictive value for parametrial invasion
- B. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most common gynecologic malignancy in the world
- C. Adenocarcinoma is the most common cell type
- D. Hydronephrosis implies stage IIB

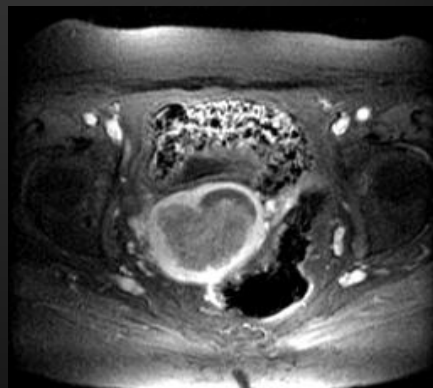


Case 8

## Case 8



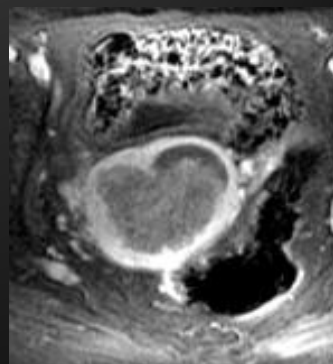
Patient A



Patient B

## Which is true for this diagnosis?

- A. Staging is done by imaging, not surgery
- B. Invasion of the bladder muscularis propria but not the mucosa is considered stage IV disease
- C. Serous papillary and clear cell variants are the most common and spread like ovarian cancer
- D. Most cases are in post-menopausal women



Dx: Endometrial cancer stage IB

## Demographics

- most common gynecologic malignancy in US
- peri to post menopausal
- major types
  - endometrioid – vast majority
  - aggressive types
    - clear cell, serous papillary



## Clinical

- No good screening test but 90% → early abnormal bleeding:
  - Endometrial atrophy 60-80%
  - Endometrial cancer 10%
  - HRT 20%
  - Polyps/hyperplasia 10%

## Revised FIGO staging

- I – uterus only
  - A: endo/myo invasion <50%
  - B: myo invasion >50%
- II – cervical stroma
- III – local/regional spread
- IV – bladder/bowel, distant

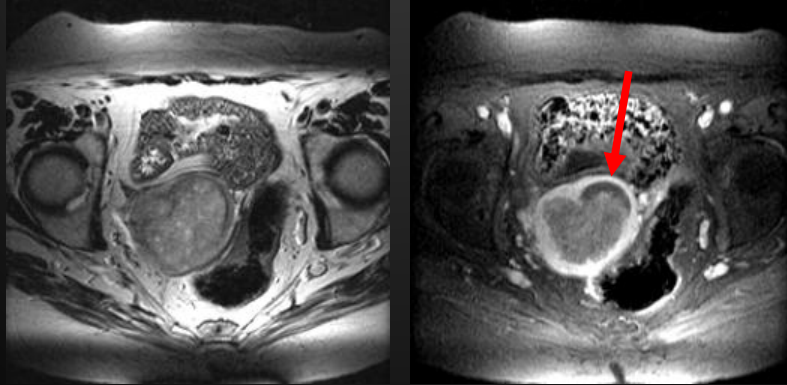
## Revised FIGO staging

- I – uterus only  
– A: endo/myo invasion <50%      TAH/BSO  
– B: myo invasion >50%      +/- LND, +/- RT
- II – cervical stroma
- III – local/regional spread      LND, CHEMO, +/- RT
- IV – bladder/bowel, distant

## Endometrial cancer – stage IA

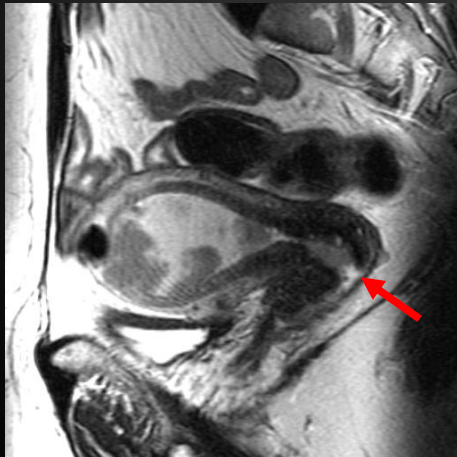


## Endometrial cancer – stage IB



## Cervical involvement

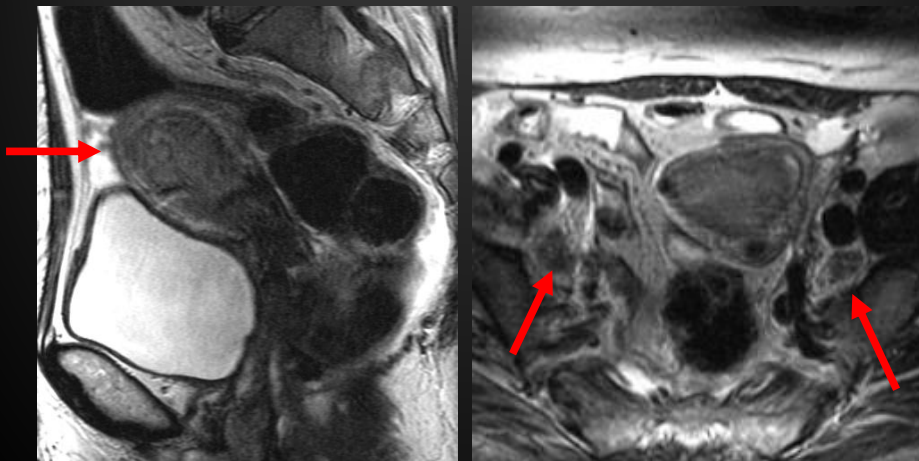
Stage I



Stage II

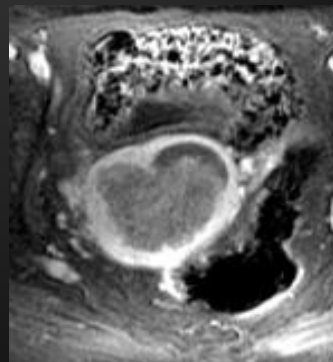


## Endometrial cancer – stage IIIc



## Which is true for this diagnosis?

- A. Staging is done by imaging, not surgery
- B. Invasion of the bladder muscularis propria but not the mucosa is considered stage IV disease
- C. Serous papillary and clear cell variants are the most common and spread like ovarian cancer
- D. Most cases are in post-menopausal women**



Thank you

## Acknowledgements

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