Should Ovaries Be Removed During a Hysterectomy?
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Introduction

❖ Hysterectomy is the surgical removal of all or part of the uterus. In some cases, the fallopian tubes and ovaries are removed along with the uterus, which is a hysterectomy with bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy (BSO).1

❖ It’s a common surgical procedure for gynecological diseases, before menopause it leads to decrease in endogenous estrogen leading to different health problems. So women undergoing hysterectomy are presented with the choice of ovarian conservation or removal.1

Methods

❖ The data in this poster was collected from three different studies. To consider whether the ovaries should be removed at the time of hysterectomy or not.

Results and Discussion

❖ Hysterectomy with BSO was associated with a lower incidence of breast and total cancer, but no difference in the incidence of cancer mortality was found when compared with ovarian conservation. Coronary heart disease and cardiovascular death were higher among women with BSO especially women younger than 45 years who were not treated with estrogen.2

❖ The nurses health study (NHS) demonstrated a statistically significantly reduced risk of ovarian and breast cancer in women who had BSO compared to those who had ovarian conservation. There is some evidence from other studies that hysterectomy alone reduces the risk of ovarian cancer. It also found that BSO was associated with a statistically significantly increased risk of coronary heart disease and stroke among all women, the effect on cardiovascular disease risk was greater in women who had not used estrogen therapy.3

❖ Patients who underwent oophorectomy had a lower risk of death from ovarian and breast cancer than did those who had ovarian conservation. Bilateral oophorectomy was associated with significantly increased mortality among women younger than 50 years at the time of hysterectomy who had never used estrogen therapy. This increased risk was not found among women who were past or current users of estrogen therapy.4

Conclusion

❖ Hysterectomy with Bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy offers the advantage of effectively eliminating the risk of ovarian and breast cancer.

❖ But can be detrimental to other aspects of health, especially among women younger than age 45 years and not use estrogen therapy.

References