

**Gynecologic Oncologists**  
**In the Greater Washington, DC Area**  
*February 2003*

**Gynecologic Oncologists** are surgeons who specialize in diseases of the reproductive system. They see more patients with ovarian cancer than the typical physician and can provide added expertise and skills for your care.

In a 1999 paper, British researchers concluded that women with Stage III disease, who are treated by gynecologic oncologists, have a better survival rate than women treated by generalist gynecologists. The study showed that care from a gynecologic oncologist *reduced* the death rate from ovarian cancer by 25% when compared to those treated by a general gynecologist. In contrast, they found that women under the care of a general surgeon experienced an *increased* mortality rate of 32% when compared to a general gynecologist.<sup>1</sup> The scientists asserted that the surgical skill of a gynecologic oncologist leads to more complete removal [debulking] of cancerous tissue.

Thus, both science and our own experiences, lead us to encourage Washington area women to add the talents of a gynecologic oncologist to your medical team BEFORE surgery.

In the Greater Washington, DC area, we are blessed to have the availability of a great number of talented gynecologic oncologists. The list below was extracted from the list of members of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology [SGO], the professional organization for gynecologic oncologists. In providing this list, we make no qualitative judgments about the physicians or the correctness of their contact information. Rather, we provide this list as a starting point for conversations with your medical caregivers, family, and friends. For the most up to date list and information, we refer you to the SGO's website at: <http://sgo.org>.

**The Ovarian & Gynecologic Cancer Coalition  
of Greater Washington**

*An Affiliate of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance/Ovar'coming Together*  
*P.O. Box 12504 - Arlington, Virginia 22219*  
*703-346-3893*

*Ovarian & Gynecologic Cancer Coalition (OGCC), a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, was created by ovarian cancer survivors in 1998 to provide supportive programs and information to women with ovarian and other gynecologic cancers, her family, and caregivers. In addition, we are working to change today's situation where women are diagnosed at advanced stage cancer. The vision we are working to achieve is that by 2020, 80% of ovarian cancer cases detected in the Greater Washington Area will be detected at an early stage.*

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<sup>1</sup> Based upon a Reuters news article summarizing the study of Junor, EJ, Hole DJ, McNulty L., Mason M., Young J., *Specialist gynaecologists and survival outcome in ovarian cancer: a Scottish national study of 1866 patients.* British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. 1999. Nov. 106(11):1130-1136.

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