

# AMSER Rad Path Case of the Month:

## Mature Cystic Teratoma

**Amulya Yennam, MS4**

Drexel University College of Medicine

**Matthew Hartman, MD**

Allegheny Health Network  
Radiology

**John Nakayama, MD**

Allegheny Health Network  
Gynecologic Oncology

**Alexander Strait, MD**

Allegheny Health Network  
Pathology

**Mahreen Gilani, MD**

Allegheny Health Network  
Pathology

# Patient Presentation

- A 56-year-old postmenopausal woman presents to clinic for 12 months of daily vaginal spotting. She feels otherwise well. Physical exam does not show any abnormalities.
- Pertinent Labs:
  - Pap: negative
  - HPV: negative
  - CEA: normal
  - CA-125: normal
  - Inhibin A/B: normal

# What Imaging Should We Order?

**American College of Radiology  
ACR Appropriateness Criteria®  
Abnormal Uterine Bleeding**

**Variant 1:**      **Abnormal uterine bleeding. Initial imaging.**

Procedure	Appropriateness Category	Relative Radiation Level
US duplex Doppler pelvis	Usually Appropriate	○
US pelvis transabdominal	Usually Appropriate	○
US pelvis transvaginal	Usually Appropriate	○
US sonohysterography	May Be Appropriate (Disagreement)	○
MRI pelvis without and with IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	○
MRI pelvis without IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	○
CT pelvis with IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	☢☢☢
CT pelvis without IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	☢☢☢
CT pelvis without and with IV contrast	Usually Not Appropriate	☢☢☢☢

# US pelvis transabdominal (unlabeled)

Gyn Pelvis  
C5-1  
27Hz  
RS

2D  
67%  
Dyn R 55  
P Low  
HGen

TIS0.2 MI 1.3

M3



Long Left Ovary

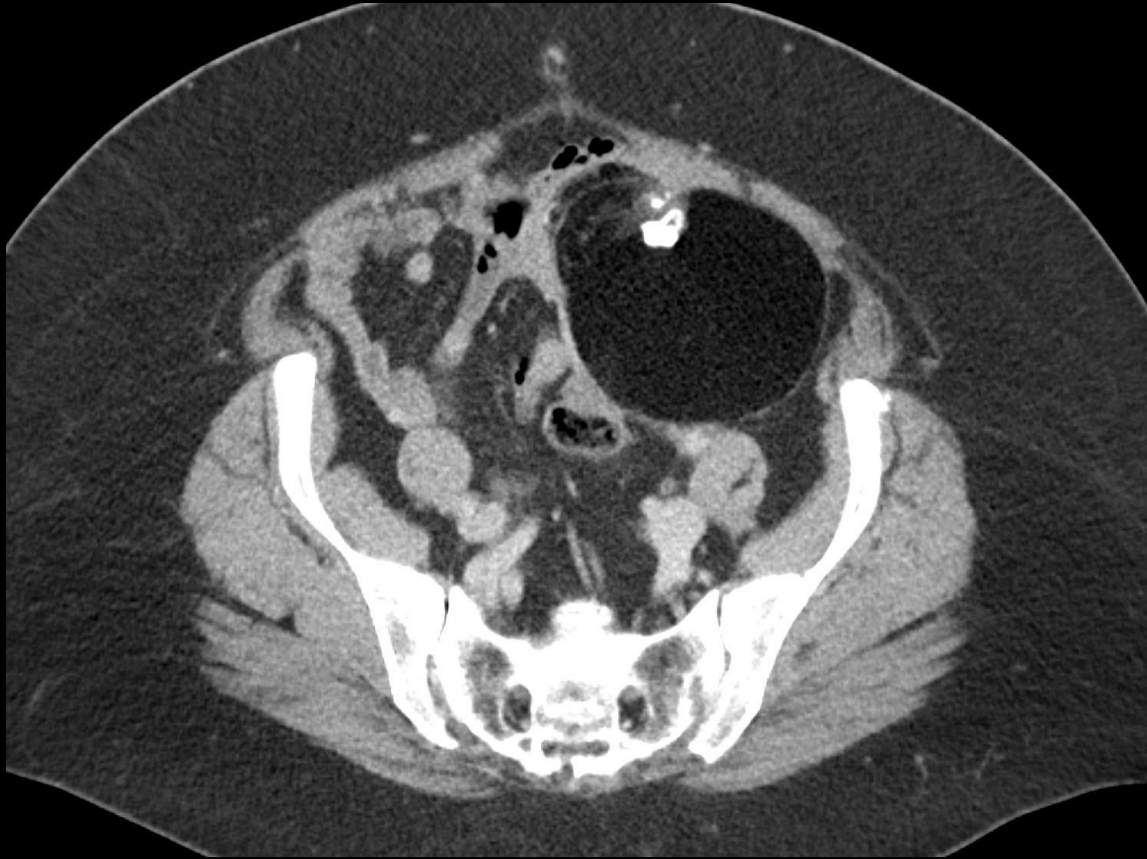
16cm

# US pelvis transabdominal (labeled)



Partially echogenic left adnexal mass with shadowing and multiple thin floating echogenic densities.

# CTAP with IV contrast (unlabeled)



Axial

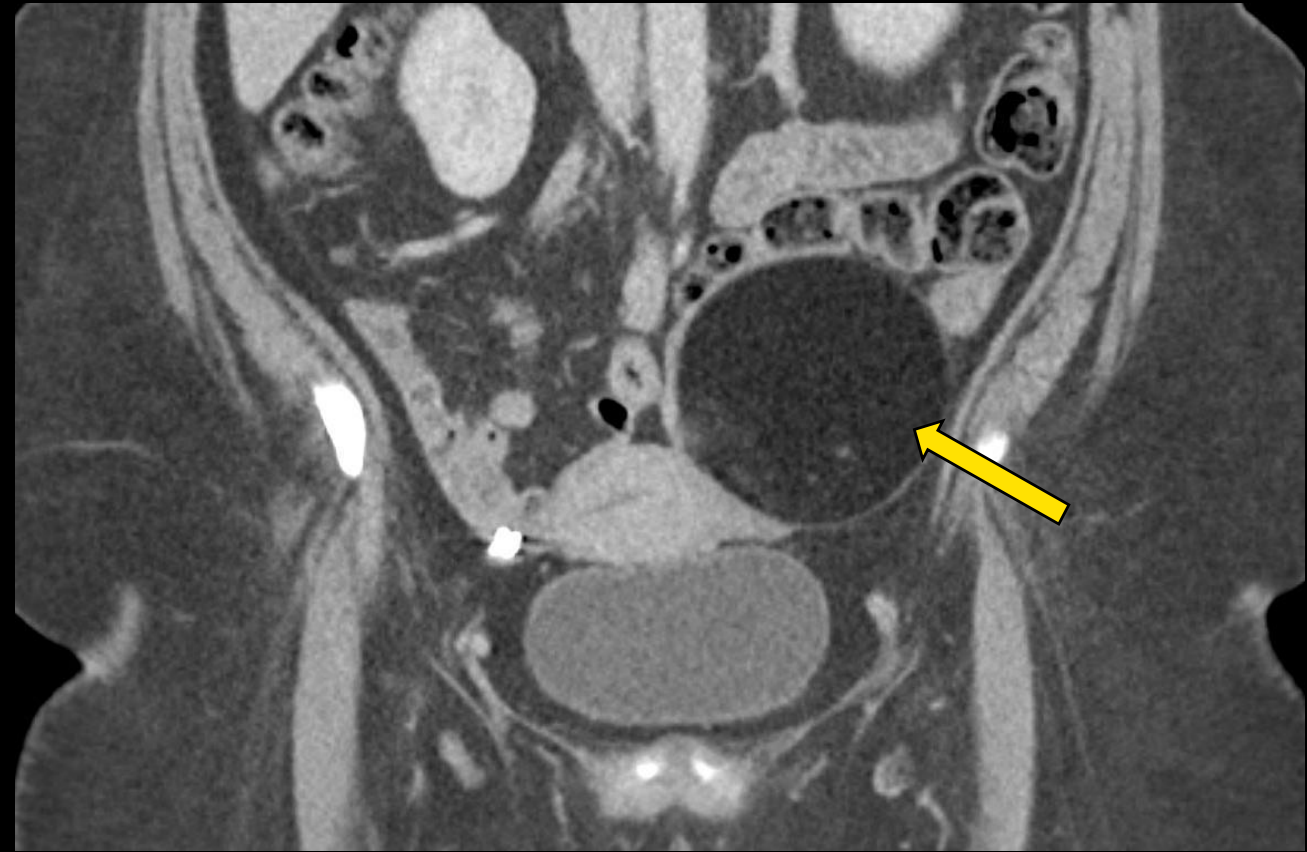
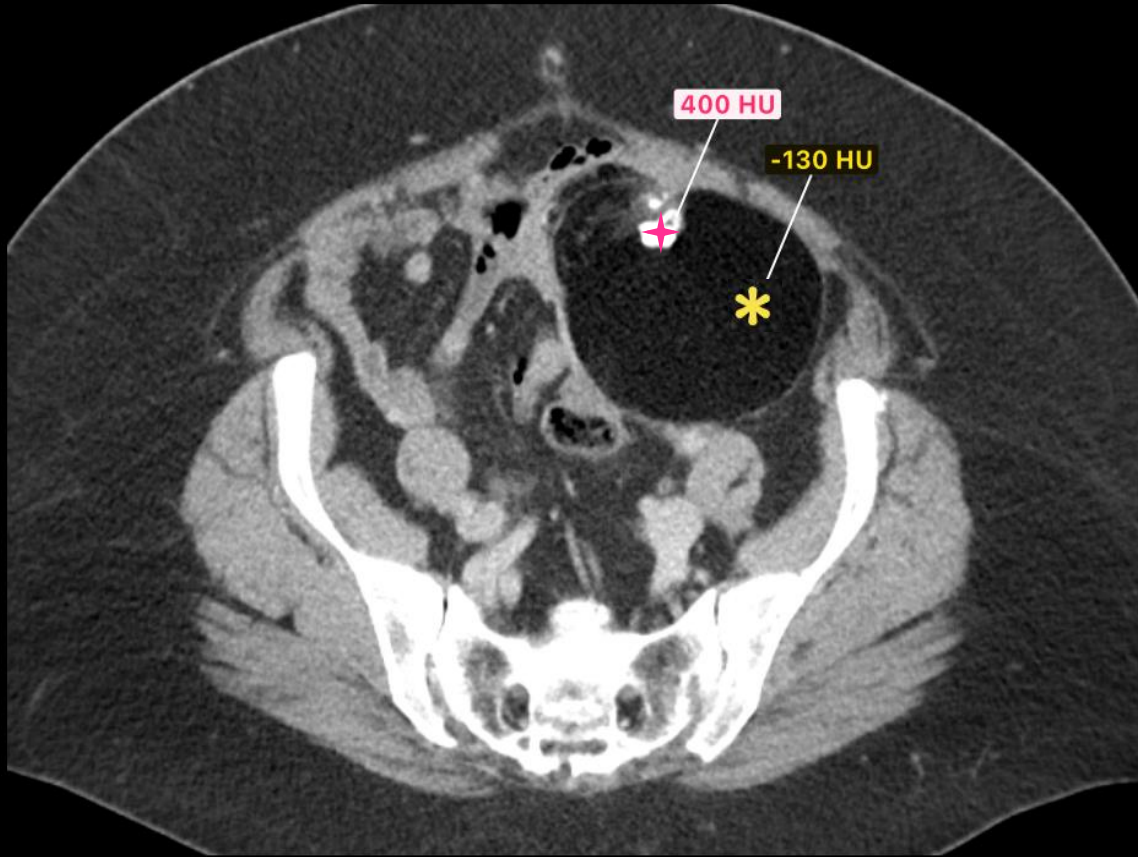


Coronal

CT was ordered by physician to confirm presence of macroscopic fat



# CTAP with IV contrast (labeled)



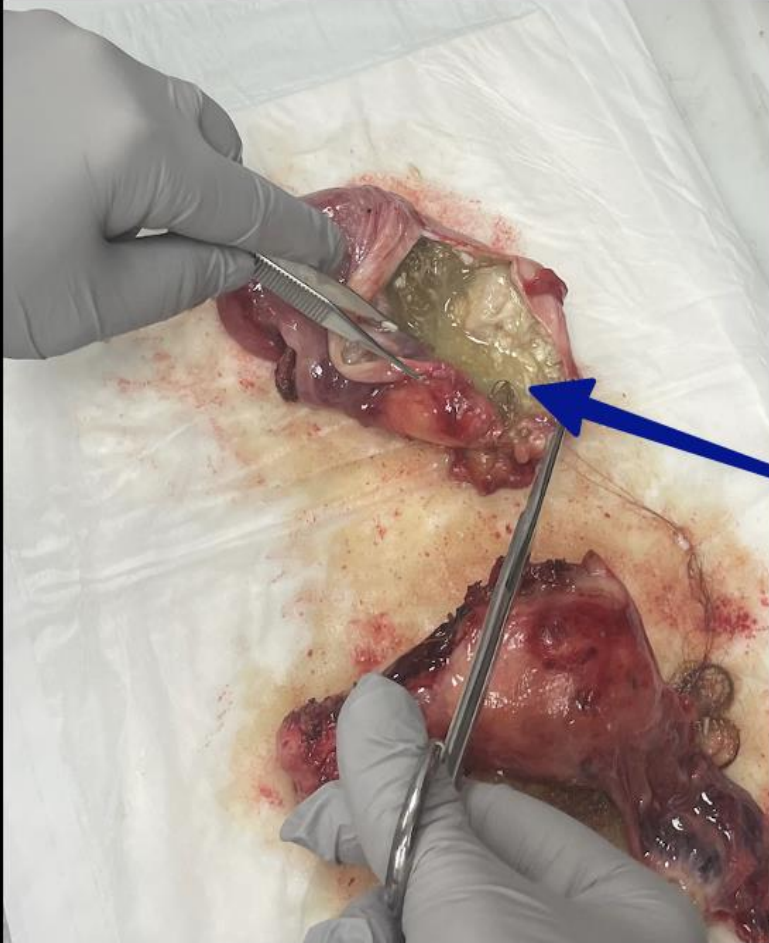
Mixed density left adnexal lesion containing **macroscopic fat (-130 HU)** and **calcified lesion (400 HU)**

# Differential Diagnoses

1. Mature ovarian cystic teratoma
2. Ovarian dermoid cyst
3. Germ cell tumor



# Gross Images after Resection

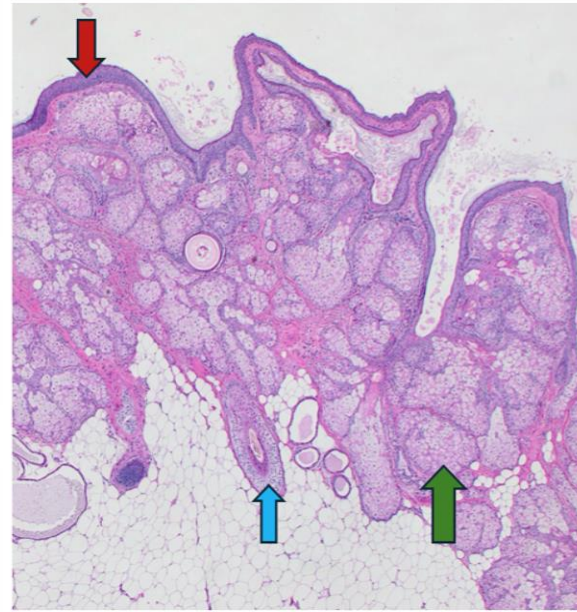
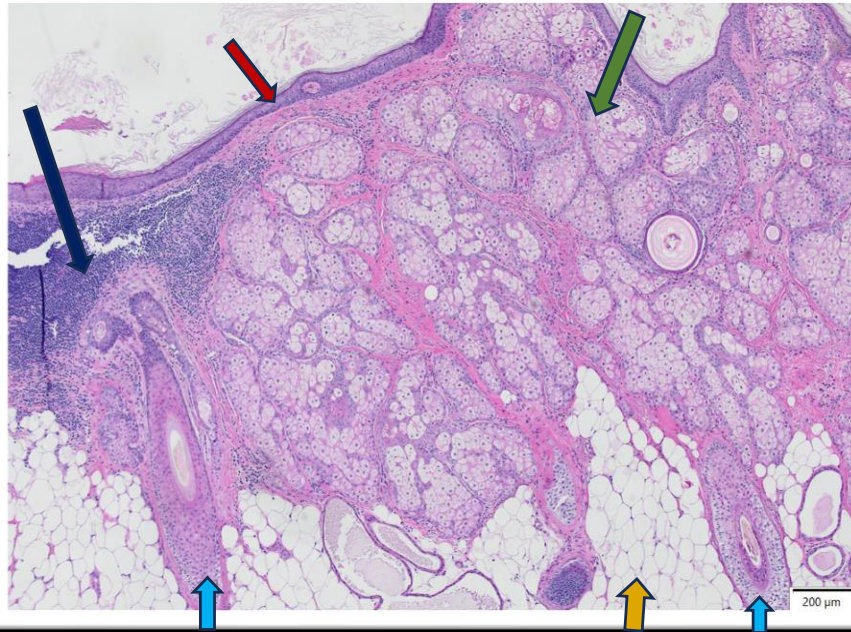


Clumps of dark-colored hair  
and collections of oily  
sebaceous fluid





# Histopathology



## Ectodermal:

*Skin:*

**Squamous epithelium with  
keratinous debris**

*With adnexa:*

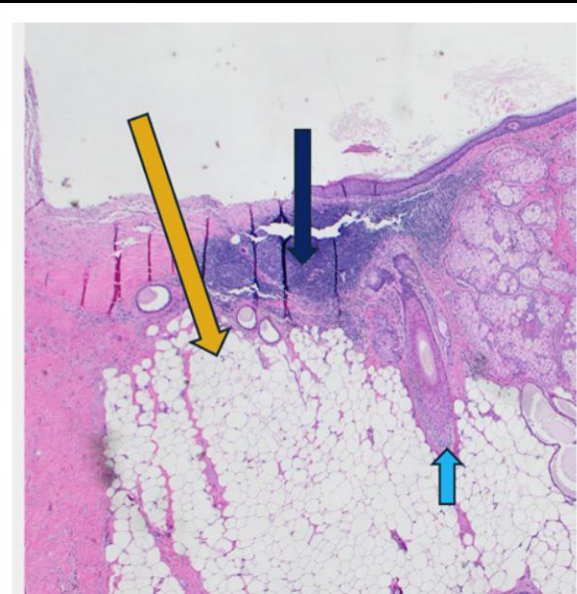
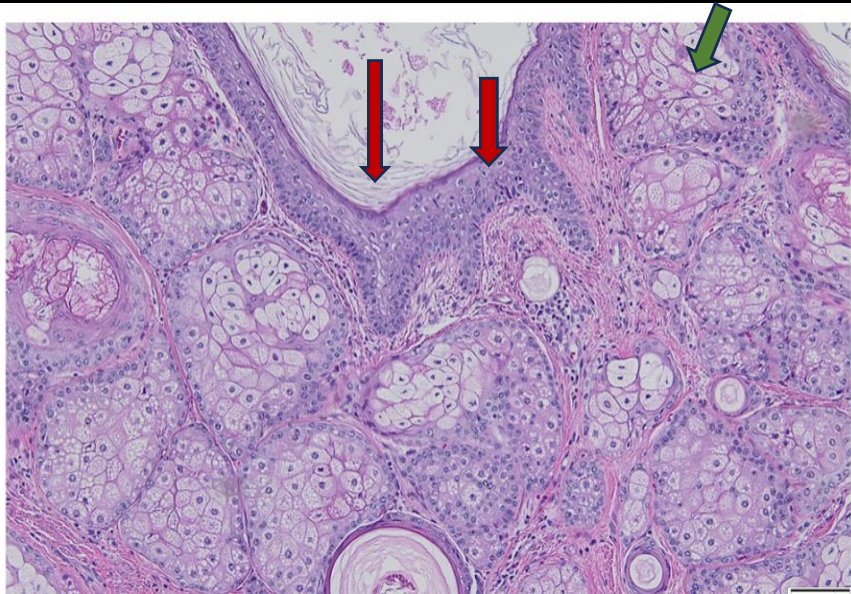
**Hair follicle**

**Sebaceous glands**

## Mesodermal:

**Adipose tissue**

**Lymphoid tissue**



**Diagnosis:** Mature cystic teratoma

**Definition:** Benign germ cell tumor composed of mature tissues derived from 2 or 3 germ cell layers (ectoderm, endoderm, mesoderm)

Final Dx:

Mature Cystic Ovarian Teratoma

# Mature Cystic Teratoma

- *Pathology*

- Benign germ cell tumor containing mature tissue elements from at least 2 of the 3 germ cell layers (ectoderm, mesoderm, endoderm)
- While the terms 'ovarian dermoid cyst' and 'mature ovarian cystic teratoma' are often used interchangeably, they are histologically distinct:
  - **Dermoid cyst** contains ectodermal elements only
  - **Mature cystic teratoma** is defined by the additional presence of mesodermal or endodermal elements

- *Epidemiology*

- Accounts for 10-20% of all ovarian neoplasms
- Most common ovarian tumor in women under 30

- *Clinical Presentation*

- Typically asymptomatic & often discovered incidentally on imaging
- May present with acute pelvic pain in cases complicated by ovarian torsion or rupture
- Rarely, malignant transformation can occur

# Mature Cystic Teratoma

- *Typical Features*
  - Location – typically unilateral (bilateral in 10-15% of cases)
  - Size – diameter typically < 10cm
  - Composition – can contain fat, sebum, hair, sweat glands, teeth, bone, nails, cartilage, thyroid tissue, etc.
- *Radiologic Appearance*
  - US – cystic adnexal mass with mural components
  - CT – fat, fat-fluid level, calcification, mural nodule
- *Management*
  - Symptomatic → surgical resection
  - Large (>7cm) → surgical resection
  - Asymptomatic and <7cm → annual follow-up to monitor growth

# References:

- Multimodality Imaging Approach to Ovarian Neoplasms with Pathologic Correlation. Erin C. Taylor, Lina Irshaid, and Mahan Mathur. RadioGraphics 2021 41:1, 289-315.
- *Mature cystic ovarian teratoma* (no date) *Radiopaedia*. Available at: <https://radiopaedia.org/articles/mature-cystic-ovarian-teratoma-1?lang=us/> (Accessed: 23 August 2024).
- Outwater E, Siegelman E, Hunt J. Ovarian Teratomas: Tumor Types and Imaging Characteristics. Radiographics. 2001;21(2):475-90. [doi:10.1148/radiographics.21.2.g01mr09475](https://doi.org/10.1148/radiographics.21.2.g01mr09475) - [Pubmed](#)
- Patel M, Feldstein V, Lipson S, Chen D, Filly R. Cystic Teratomas of the Ovary: Diagnostic Value of Sonography. AJR Am J Roentgenol. 1998;171(4):1061-5. [doi:10.2214/ajr.171.4.9762997](https://doi.org/10.2214/ajr.171.4.9762997) - [Pubmed](#)