

AMSER Rad Path Case of the Month:

Mature Cystic Teratoma

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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

TISO.2 MI 1.3



Long Left Ovary

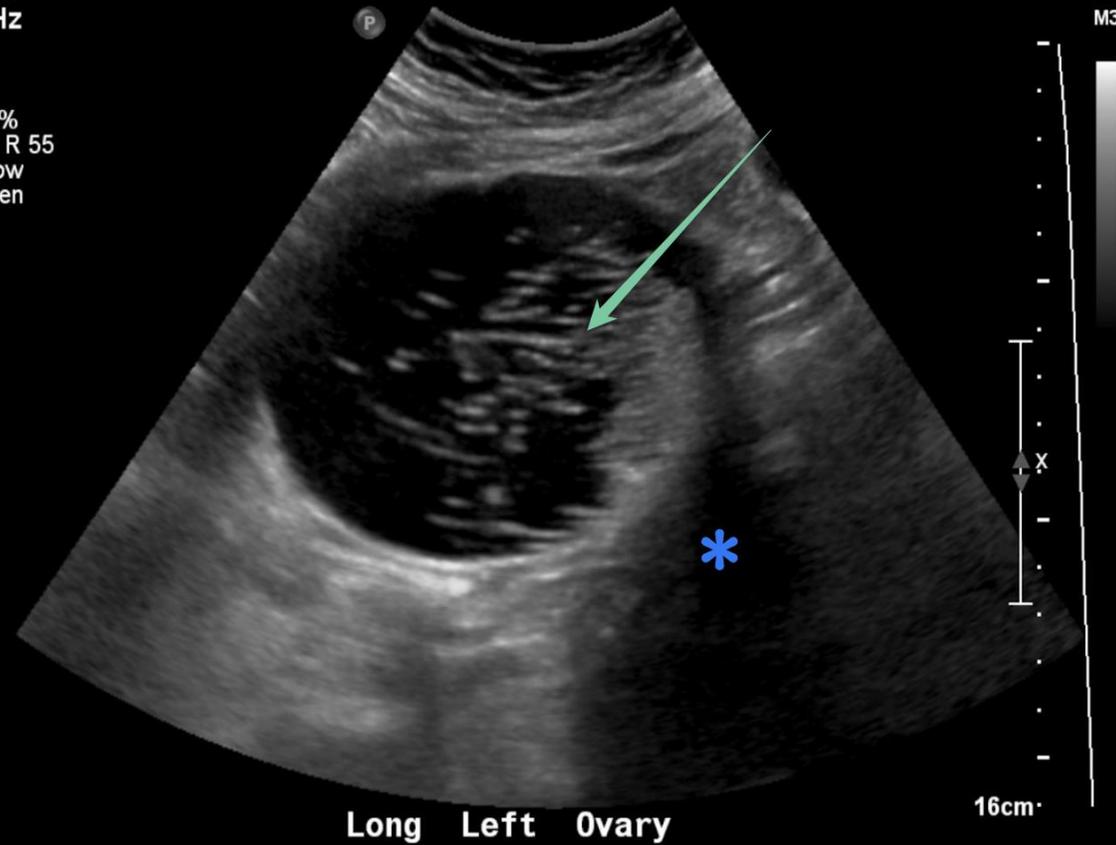
16cm

US pelvis transabdominal (labeled)

Gyn Pelvis
C5-1
27Hz
RS

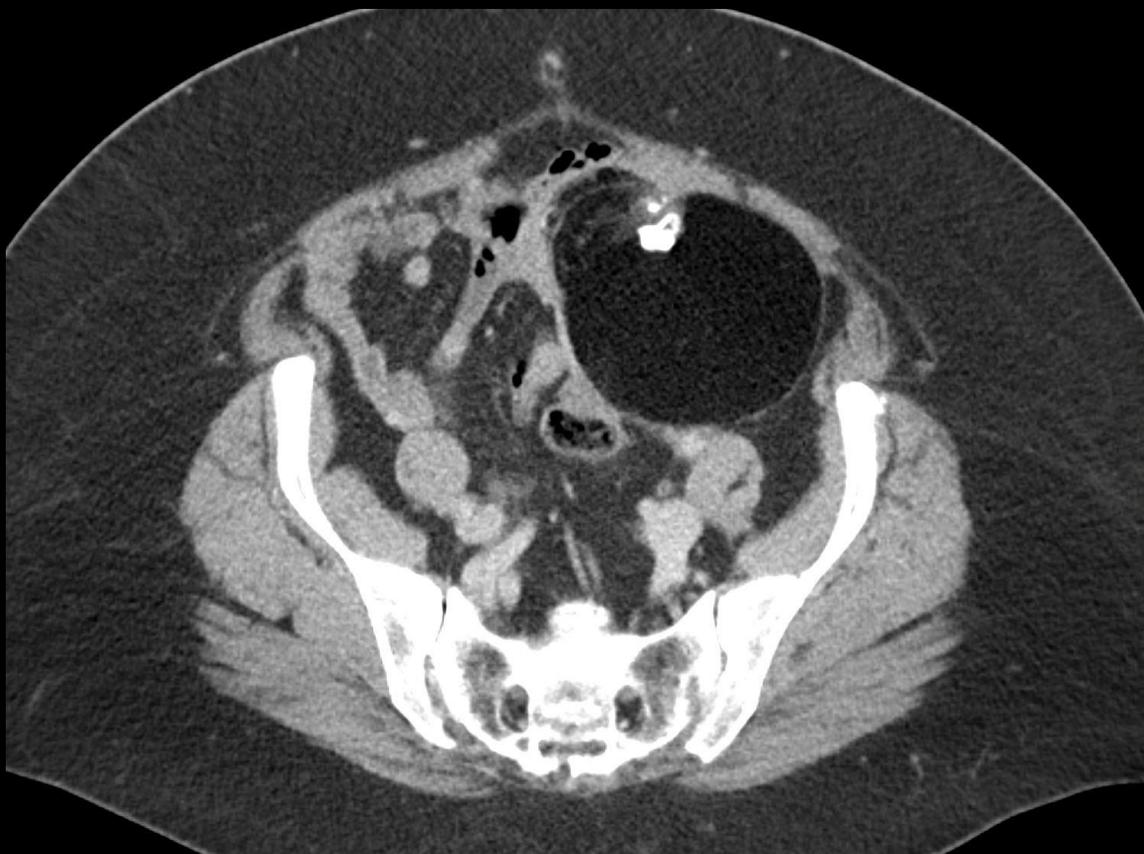
2D
67%
Dyn R 55
P Low
HGen

TIS0.2 MI 1.3



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

CTAP with IV contrast (unlabeled)



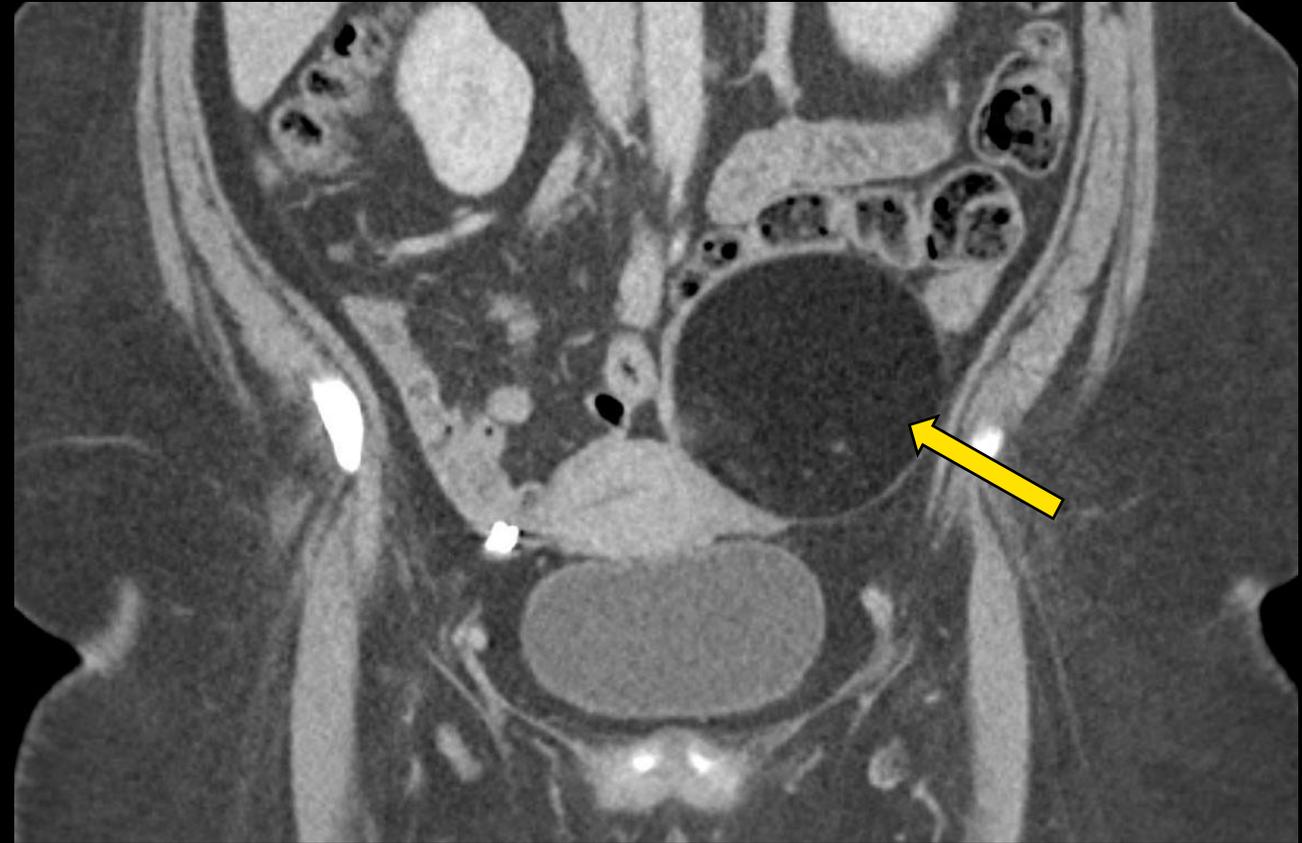
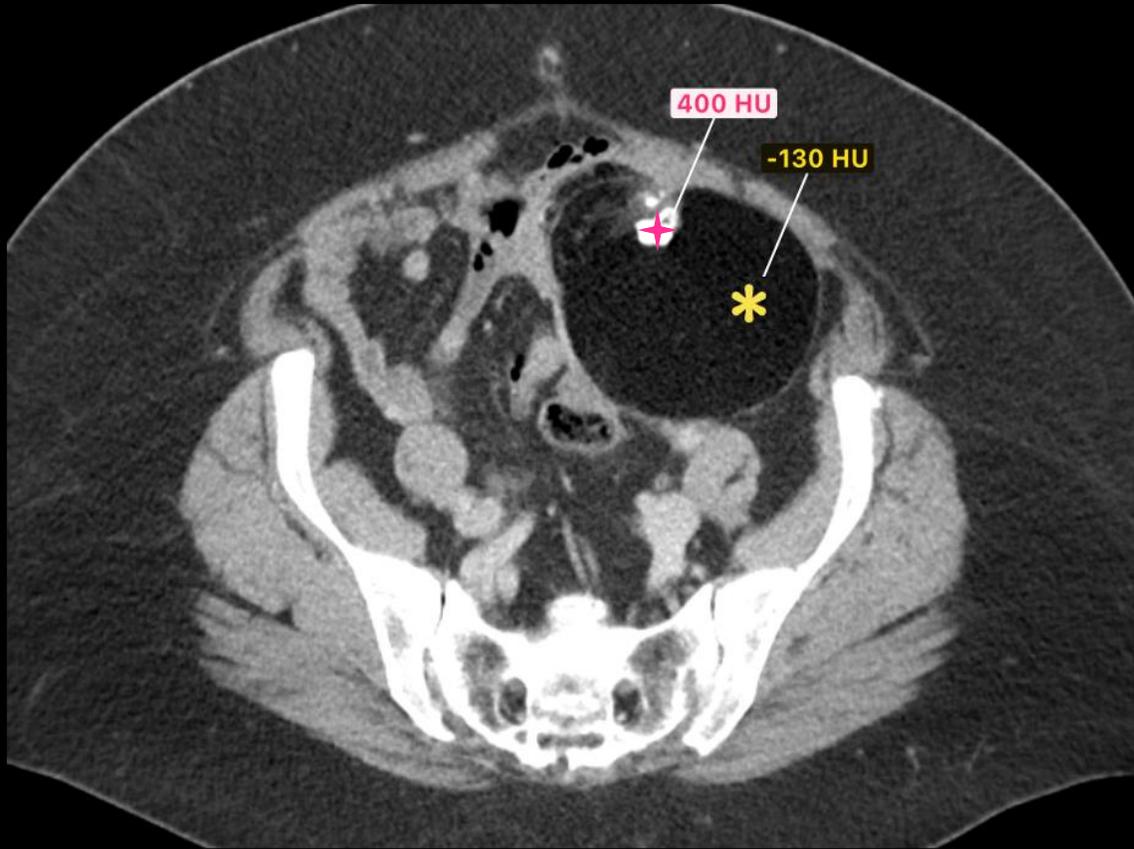
Axial



Coronal

CT was ordered by physician to confirm presence of macroscopic fat

CTAP with IV contrast (labeled)

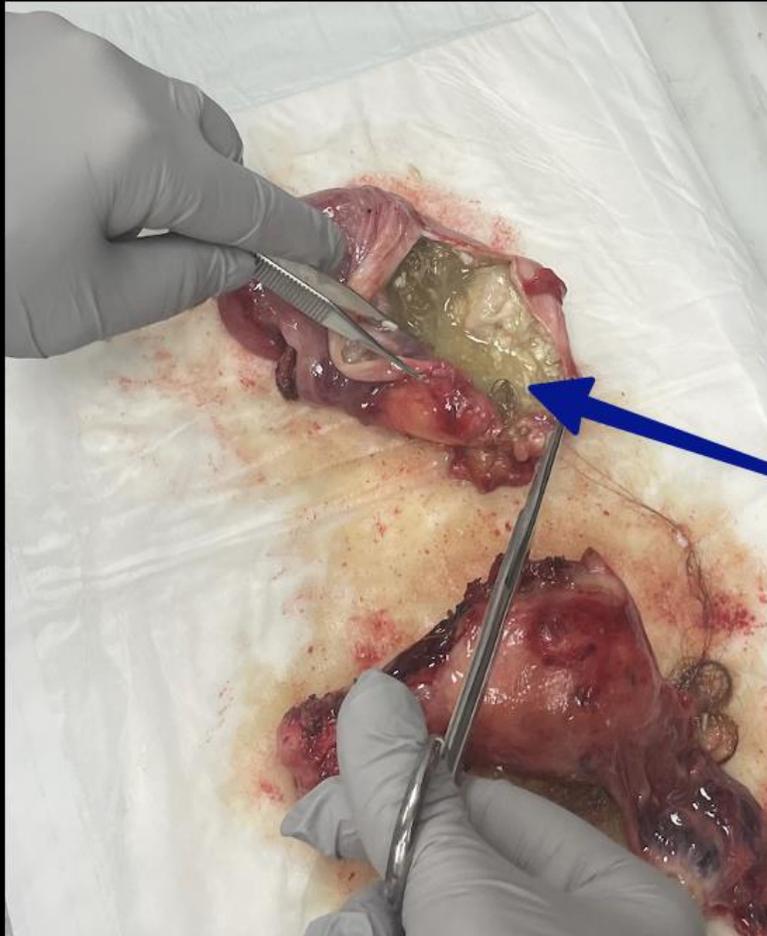


Mixed density left adnexal lesion containing **macroscopic fat (-130 HU)** and **calcified lesion (400 HU)**

Differential Diagnoses

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

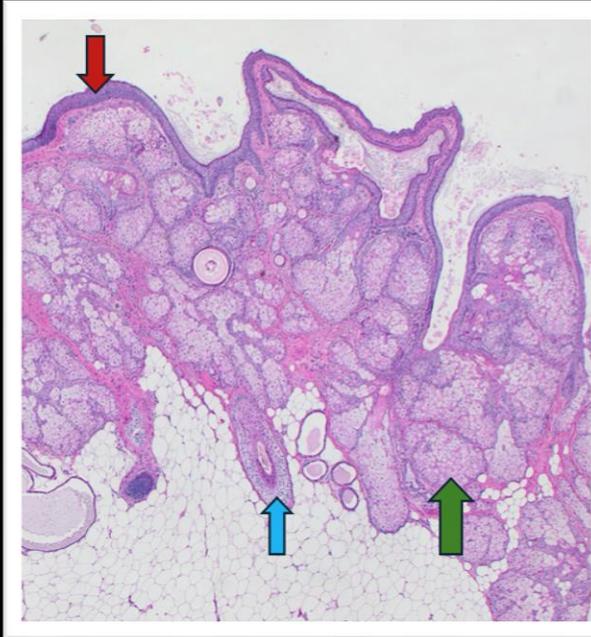
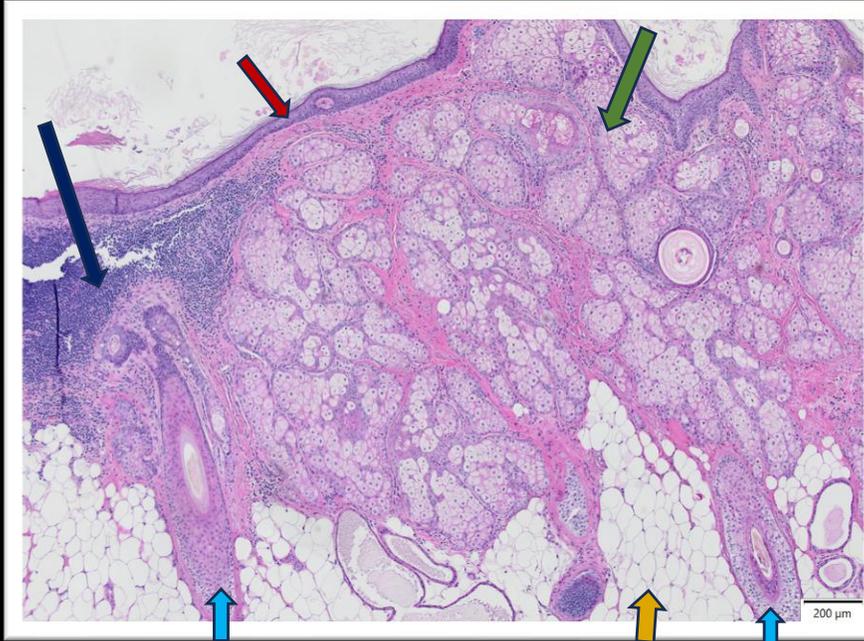
Gross Images after Resection



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



Histopathology



Ectodermal:

Skin:

**Squamous epithelium with
keratinous debris**

With adnexa:

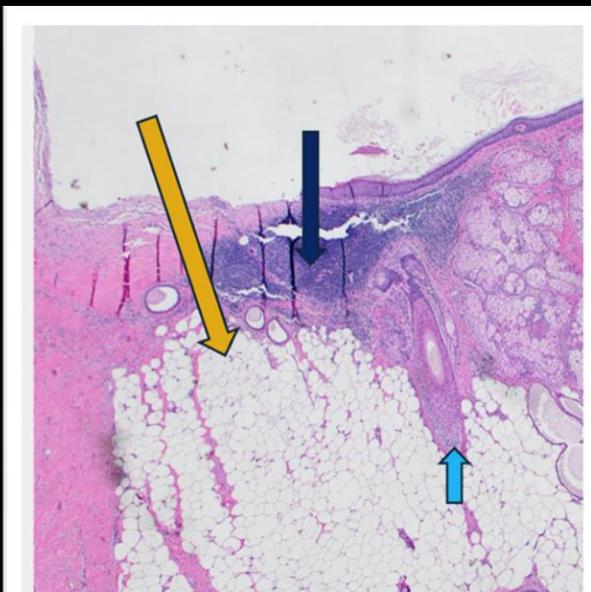
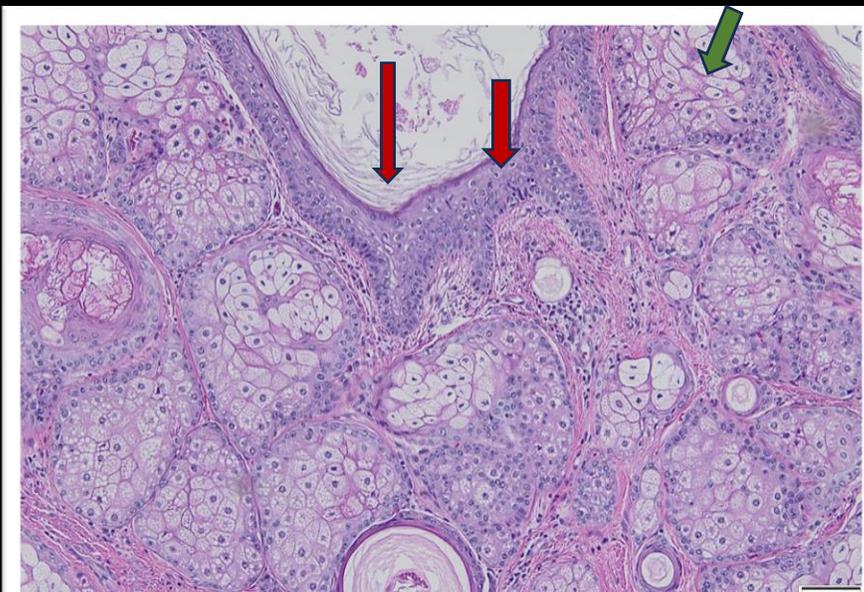
Hair follicle

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](#)