

9. Raised Ca125 and normal ultrasound

Dear [Dr ____],

Advice and guidance response pertaining to [Patient name].

(if patient over 50)

Women over 50 with a raised Ca125 are significantly more likely to be diagnosed with malignancy (including non-ovarian) in the near future than those with a normal level even if initial imaging is normal. A period of monitoring is recommended.

Ca125 levels of up to 200u/ml are more likely to be due to benign causes in pre-menopausal women.

The Welsh guideline below includes a comprehensive lists of benign gynaecological and non-gynaecological causes of a raised Ca125.

Women over 50:

- With a raised Ca125 but a normal USS require a period of monitoring as a minimum
- Repeat Ca125 one month and four months after the original test
- Further monitoring of Ca125 is not required if Ca125 level falls, remains unchanged or rises by less than 10%

Women under 50:

- With normal USS and Ca125 of less than 200 iu/ml or are unlikely to have cancer so do not require monitoring

Indications for an urgent referral:

- if there is a 10% or more increase in Ca125 level
- for CT TAP should be made if there are persistent or progressive symptoms suggestive of ovarian cancer
- Ca125 of 200iu/ml is found in any age group

Patient resources:

[CA125 blood test](#) | [Macmillan Cancer Support](#)

Relevant guidance:

[Overview](#) | [Ovarian cancer: recognition and initial management](#) | [Guidance](#) | [NICE wisdom.nhs.wales/health-board-guidelines/cwm-taf-gynaecology-file/raised-ca-125-in-postmenopausal-women-cwm-taf-gynae-guideline-2022-pdf/](#)

If referring back, please state that the referral has already been through Advice and Guidance and include previous correspondence so we don't duplicate advice.

With kind regards,
[Responding clinician name and role]