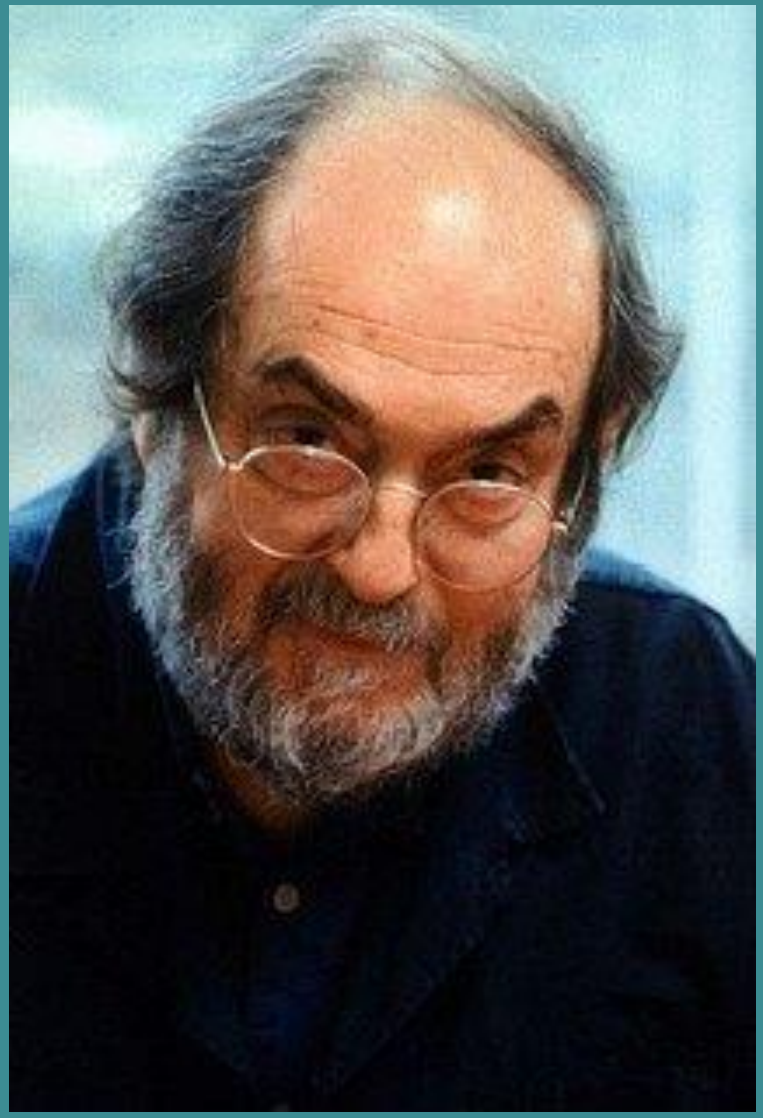
Ovarian Cancer

A MODERN APPROACH





Stanley Kubrick

OVARIAN CANCER INSTITUTE

Ovarian Cancer

General population – 1.4%

BRCA1 mutation – 39%

BRCA2 mutation – 17%

(by age 70)

Etiology of Ovarian Cancer is Largely Unknown

First pregnancy after the age of 35

Race

Fertility Drugs

Talc

The use of the birth control pill for five consecutive years reduces the risk of ovarian cancer by **50%**!!

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Ovarian Cancer

Factors that Interdict Early Diagnosis

Over the counter medications for “gas”

Symptoms that are not related to the pelvis

An expanding abdomen without weight gain

Referral to a gastroenterologist

A negative pelvic exam

A negative pelvic ultrasound

A negative CA-125 blood test

Ignoring a blood clot

Reliance on a negative family history

Patient insouciance (the ostrich effect)

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The Most Interesting Complaint In All of Medicine

My jeans don't fit anymore and I am not gaining weight

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BRCA1 and BRCA2 Genes

Produce tumor suppressor proteins that help repair damaged DNA

Mutation of these genes interferes with the repair of DNA damage

DNA damage not repaired properly may lead to cancer

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BRCA Mutations

Much higher incidence in the Ashkenazi population

Also increased in the following populations

Scandinavian

Dutch

Icelandic

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Surgeons must be very careful when they take the knife! Underneath their fine incisions stirs the culprit – Life!

Emily Dickinson

OVARIAN CANCER INSTITUTE

Ephraim McDowell



Jane Todd Crawford



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Personal Items That Leave The Operating Room

Uterus tubes and ovaries
Omentum
Appendix
Spleen
Colon
Small bowel
Part of the liver
Part of the diaphragm
Distal pancreas

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Most Tumors of the Ovary are Benign

So who should do the operation?

Questions to Ask Your Surgeon BEFORE the Operation

- Can the surgery be done with the robot?
- How many of these operations have you done?
- What is your complication rate?
- Who will be seeing me after the operation?
- May I have your cell phone number?
- Should I get another opinion?

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Chemotherapy Is A Poison

Platinum

Taxol

Doxil

Topotecan

Abraxane

Taxotere

Gemzar

Etoposide

Cytoxan

Bleomycin

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Options in the Face of Failure

Parp Inhibitors

Targeted Therapy

Vaccine Therapy

Immunotherapy

Phase I Trials

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Can One Screen for Ovarian Cancer?

NO

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NON	NAIN	NEIN
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CA-125

Introduced in 1981

Serum glycoprotein

Based on an inflammatory response

Not specific for ovarian cancer

Negative in 20% of patients with ovarian cancer

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The Test

Mass spectrophotometer
Measures metabolites and not proteins
Single drop of blood
Fifty Cents

100% accurate in all samples tested in Stage I disease

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Wouldn't it be lovely if all of these horrible treatment modalities could be avoided?

When was the last time you talked about Polio?

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Are We Destined to Slash Burn and Poison Our Way Through Yet Another Century?

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Personalized Medicine

- Chemotherapy is sometimes a roll of the dice
- Predictive measures are notoriously inadequate
- Targeted therapy is in its infancy
- Disparate molecular structure in the recurrent cancer

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Sunitinib

Oral small-molecule multi-targeted tyrosine kinase inhibitor

Approved by the FDA on January 26, 2006

Used in kidney cancer

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