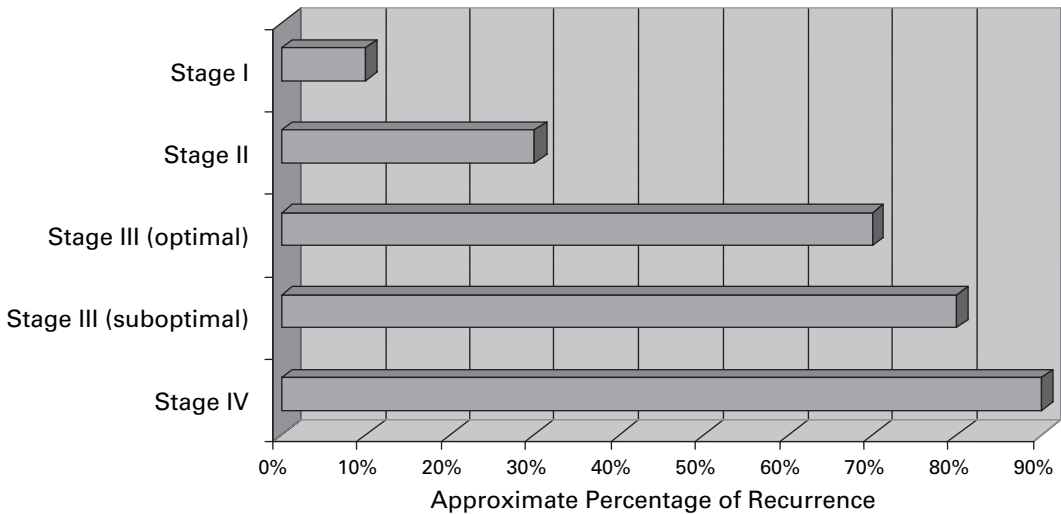


STATBITE

Ovarian Cancer: Risk of Recurrence by Stage of Diagnosis



A news article in this issue (p.1233) reports on recent findings presented at the American Society of Clinical Oncology annual meeting on ovarian cancer and the CA125 biomarker, which is used to detect recurrence. The study found, however, that women treated for a recurrence detected through this biomarker had no better outcomes than those who waited to be treated until the onset of clinical symptoms.

Between 70% and 90% of all women with ovarian cancer, at some point, have a recurrence. Women with advanced ovarian cancer tend to have multiple relapses and undergo several rounds of chemotherapy. For women diagnosed with ovarian cancer, the risk of recurrence varies based on multiple factors, including the stage at diagnosis.

The above graph breaks out the risk of recurrence for women at five different stages of ovarian cancer. About 90%–95% of women diagnosed with stage IV ovarian cancer will have recurrence at some point, whereas about 10% of women with stage I will have recurrence.

Citation: Ovarian Cancer National Alliance ([www.ovariancancer.org](http://www.ovariancancer.org)) and SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 1975–2005, National Cancer Institute. Bethesda, Md., [http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975\\_2005/](http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2005/).

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