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3 **‘Factors influencing uptake and timing of risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy**  
4 **in women at risk of familial ovarian cancer: a competing risk time to event**  
5 **analysis.’**

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26 **Running Title**

27 Risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy: timing and uptake

28

29

30 **Abstract**

31 **Factors influencing uptake and timing of risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy**  
32 **in women at risk of familial ovarian cancer: a competing risk time to event**  
33 **analysis.**

34 **Objective**

35 To evaluate factors affecting uptake of risk-reducing salpingo-oophorectomy(RRSO)  
36 over time in women at high-risk of familial ovarian cancer.

37 **Design**

38 Prospective observational cohort

39 **Setting**

40 Tertiary high-risk familial gynaecological cancer clinic

41 **Population/Sample**

42 New clinic attendees between March-2004 and November-2009, fulfilling high-risk  
43 criteria for the UK Familial Ovarian Cancer Screening Study.

44 **Methods**

45 Risk management options discussed included RRSO and ovarian surveillance.  
46 Outcomes data were analysed from a bespoke database. The competing risk method  
47 was used to model the cumulative incidence function(CIF) of RRSO over time, and  
48 Sub-Hazard ratio(SHR) to assess the strength of association of variables of interest  
49 with RRSO. Gray's test was used to evaluate the difference in CIF between two  
50 groups and multivariable competing risk regression analysis to model the cumulative  
51 probabilities of co-variates on the CIF.

52 **Results**

53 Of 1133 eligible women 265(21.4%) opted for RRSO and 868(69.9%) for screening.  
54 Women undergoing RRSO were older (49years,IQR-12.2) than those preferring

55 screening (43.4years,IQR-11.9)( $p<0.0005$ ). The cumulative probability(CIF) for  
56 RRSO at 5years was 0.55(CI0.45,0.64) for BRCA1/2 carriers and 0.22(CI0.19,0.26)  
57 for women of unknown mutation status( $p<0.0001$ ); 0.42(95%CI0.36,0.47) for  
58 postmenopausal women( $p<0.0001$ ); 0.29(95%CI0.25,0.33) for parity  $\geq 1$ ( $p=0.009$ )  
59 and 0.47(95%CI 0.39,0.55) for a personal history of breast cancer( $p<0.0001$ ).

60 Variables of significance from the regression analysis were: a BRCA1/2  
61 mutation(SHR 2.31(CI 1.7, 3.14)), postmenopausal status(SHR2.16(CI 1.62,2.87))  
62 and a personal history of breast cancer(SHR1.5(CI 1.09,2.06)).

### 63 **Conclusions**

64 Decision making is a complex process and women opt for surgery many years after  
65 initial risk assessment. BRCA carriers, postmenopausal women and women who had  
66 breast cancer are significantly more likely to opt for preventative surgery.

67

### 68 **Key Words**

69 BRCA, Risk Reducing Salpingo-oophorectomy, RRSO, ovarian cancer, tubal cancer,  
70 unknown mutation status, competing risk

71

72

73 **Introduction**

74 Mutations in the BRCA1/2 genes contribute to most of the known ovarian cancer risk  
75 in women at increased risk for familial ovarian cancer, with a number of moderate to  
76 low penetrance variants accounting for the residual familial risk. Women carrying a  
77 BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation have up to a 49-65% risk of developing breast cancer  
78 and a 18-40% risk of developing ovarian cancer till 70 years age.<sup>1,2</sup> Higher  
79 penetrance estimates have been reported in series of high-risk families with multiple  
80 cancer cases ascertained through genetic clinics.<sup>3-6</sup>

81

82 Risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy (RRSO) has been shown to be the most  
83 effective option for preventing tubal/ ovarian cancer, with a hazard ratio (HR) of 0.21  
84 (95%CI 0.12, 0.39)<sup>7</sup> having been reported on meta-analysis in known BRCA carriers.  
85 Oophorectomy has also been found to half the risk of subsequent breast cancer in  
86 premenopausal women who have not undergone prophylactic mastectomy.<sup>7</sup> Screening  
87 for ovarian cancer in this population is still of unproven benefit and is currently  
88 recommended only within the context of a research study. The advantage of reduction  
89 in ovarian cancer risk with RRSO must be weighed against the as yet unproven  
90 benefit of screening in this population, anxiety associated with false positive  
91 surveillance results as well as the potential surgical risks<sup>8-10</sup> and residual risk of  
92 primary peritoneal cancer.<sup>11</sup> Despite the lack of evidence of benefit, many women opt  
93 for screening and RRSO uptake rates have been found to vary considerably within  
94 centres as well as between countries.<sup>12,13</sup>

95

96 In addition in premenopausal women, RRSO also leads to the onset of premature  
97 menopause and the loss of subsequent fertility. Premature menopause has been

98 associated with a higher risk of cardiovascular disease,<sup>14-16</sup> potential cognitive  
99 impairment and Parkinsonism,<sup>17-19</sup> osteoporosis, vasomotor symptoms, and  
100 detrimental impact on quality of life.<sup>20,21</sup> A potential mortality impact<sup>22</sup> has also been  
101 described. Risks seem to be higher for women who undergo the procedure under the  
102 age of 45 and do not take hormone replacement therapy (HRT).<sup>21,22</sup> Thus, the timing  
103 of surgery is of significant importance and the choices high-risk women make may  
104 change over time. However, only three of the previous reports evaluating uptake of  
105 preventative surgery in BRCA carriers report a time to event analysis.<sup>23-25</sup> A study of  
106 306 Dutch BRCA1/BRCA2 carriers found a 75% RRSO uptake rate over a 10 year  
107 period.<sup>24</sup> A study from Chicago, found a 70% uptake over a 7 year period in 88  
108 BRCA1/BRCA2 carriers.<sup>25</sup> A Manchester based study of 212 BRCA1/2 carriers  
109 reported higher uptake in BRCA1 (52%) compared to BRCA2 carriers (28%) over a 7  
110 year period.<sup>23</sup> The median time to surgery in these studies varied from 12.5 to 34  
111 months.

112

113 Here we undertake a time to event analysis to report on the factors affecting uptake of  
114 RRSO in high-risk women attending a tertiary multidisciplinary gynaecological  
115 familial cancer clinic. The uniqueness of our cohort includes the presence of a large  
116 number of women from high-risk families for whom genetic testing is unavailable in  
117 the UK due to the absence of a live affected relative. Moreover, for the first time in  
118 such an analysis we use a competing risk method which reduces potential bias related  
119 to censoring associated with Kaplan Meier<sup>26</sup> and standard Cox<sup>27</sup> models in earlier  
120 reported time to event analyses.

121

122

123 **Materials and Methods**

124 The familial gynaecological cancer clinic at UCLH is a tertiary level clinic for  
125 managing women at 'high-risk' for familial gynaecological cancer. Women were  
126 identified from the clinic's bespoke database as high-risk on the basis of the inclusion  
127 criteria (family history / mutation status) for the United Kingdom Familial Ovarian  
128 Cancer Screening Study (UKFOCSS) (Supplemental table-1).<sup>9,28</sup> BRCA gene testing  
129 within the UK National Health Service (NHS) is primarily available to cancer affected  
130 individuals from high-risk families ( $\geq 20\%$  carrier probability) or individuals from a  
131 family with a confirmed BRCA mutation. Thus a number of high-risk women in the  
132 UK are unable to access gene testing and are of unknown mutation status (UMS).

133

134 Women are managed within the context of a multi-disciplinary team, which includes  
135 gynaecological oncologists, a radiologist, a clinical geneticist, a clinical psychologist,  
136 a clinical nurse specialist, minimal access gynaecologists and a pathologist.<sup>9</sup> All  
137 women attending the clinic undergo a pedigree-based clinical risk assessment and  
138 receive comprehensive advice on the advantages and disadvantages of RRSO and  
139 ovarian cancer screening as well as reproductive and life style issues. The primary  
140 recommendation for high-risk women is RRSO after the age of 40, if her family is  
141 completed. Premenopausal women undergoing surgery are generally advised short  
142 term HRT till the age of 50 years. Screening for ovarian cancer is available in the  
143 context of a national trial, UKFOCSS for those  $>35$  years age.

144

145 Prior to RRSO, all high-risk women undergo a pre-operative CA125 and transvaginal  
146 ultrasound scan (TVS). Surgery involves removal of both tubes and ovaries (or all

147 remaining adnexae in women who had undergone previous partial removal),  
148 peritoneal washings for cytological examination and endometrial sampling.

149

150 Prospectively collected demographic, clinical and pathology data were stored in a  
151 bespoke database and used for the current analysis. Where necessary, hospital case  
152 notes as well as pathology records were reviewed. The database was searched for  
153 high-risk women from breast and/or ovarian cancer families who had their first clinic  
154 visit between April-2004 and November-2009. Women who had amenorrhoea for 12  
155 months (excluding those with a medical or physiological explanation such as, Mirena  
156 IUS, hormonal therapy or breast feeding) were considered to be postmenopausal.

157 Statistical Analysis:

158 The effect of individual variables on RRSO was initially evaluated using univariate  
159 analysis. The Mann-Whitney non-parametric test was used to compare age  
160 distributions between groups after reviewing histograms. Chi-Square with Yates'  
161 continuity correction and Fisher's exact test were used to calculate the difference  
162 between proportions. Two sided p values are reported for all statistical tests.

163

164 Competing Risk Analysis:

165 In a competing risks setting, the main disadvantage of standard survival analysis  
166 methods relates to censoring. Popular methods, such as the Kaplan-Meier estimator or  
167 the Cox proportional hazards model assume that censoring is non-informative and  
168 independent.<sup>26,27</sup> Patients who withdraw or are lost to follow-up during the study are  
169 classified as censored and are assumed to have the same risk of RRSO (event of  
170 interest) as others who are alive and have not undergone RRSO at the end of the  
171 study. However, women who undergo a competing risk event such as death from

172 unrelated causes during the study are also treated as censored within a Kaplan-Meier  
173 analysis. But, as they are deceased they are no longer at risk of RRSO. Some women  
174 who are undergoing screening will have to undergo surgery due to a screen detected  
175 abnormality. This would not be true 'prophylactic surgery'. Thus there may be a  
176 number of reasons (competing risks) as a result of which women cannot subsequently  
177 opt for RRSO. Using the traditional Kaplan-Meier product-limit method in such  
178 situations gives a false/ over-inflated picture of the cumulative incidence of the event  
179 of interest (RRSO). Hence, in the presence of competing risks, instead of the  
180 traditional Kaplan-Meier method<sup>26</sup> we have used a competing risk / actuarial  
181 cumulative incidence analysis used that considers cause-specific hazard functions (i.e  
182 for each competing risk separately).<sup>29</sup>

183

184 In this analysis, we have used a competing risk method to model the cumulative  
185 incidence function (CIF) of RRSO over time. The cumulative incidence function  
186 gives the cumulative probability of occurrence of a particular event type in the  
187 presence of other (=competing) events and is a function of both the survival function  
188 and cause-specific hazard function at time  $t$ . Withdrawals due to death; bilateral  
189 salpingo-oophorectomy resulting from a screen detected abnormality; and negative  
190 genetic test for a known predisposing mutation in the family were treated as  
191 competing risks. Individuals were censored at the point of all other reasons for  
192 withdrawal or at last follow-up (study end).

193

194 The impact of individual variables on the cumulative incidence function was  
195 calculated for RRSO and competing risk events. In addition to CIF plots for different  
196 factor levels, the significance was assessed univariately using Gray's test for



197 subhazard distributions. This is similar to the familiar log-rank test, except that in the  
198 latter test a subject with a competing event would exit the ‘at risk’ set whereas in  
199 Gray’s test the subject remains ‘at risk’ forever.<sup>30,31</sup>

200

201 It is expected that many of the identified covariates will be correlated, and provide  
202 similar information. We chose to identify those factors that have a uniquely strong  
203 relationship with time to RRSO. A competing risks version of the Cox proportional  
204 model allows a regression of multiple variables on time to RRSO. In this model, the  
205 exponentiated coefficients are known as the subhazard ratios (SHR), and were used to  
206 assess the strength of association for a variable with the primary event’s subhazard  
207 distribution, which is directly related to the CIF. As with the standard Cox model, the  
208 assumption of proportional subhazards means the effect of the SHRs work  
209 multiplicatively on the baseline subhazard. Selection of variables was via a forward  
210 stepwise regression with inclusion set at  $p=0.05$  and exclusion at  $p=0.1$ . This analysis  
211 was undertaken using Stata 11.0. and the ‘cmprsk’ package written for R. Two sided  $p$   
212 values are reported for all statistical tests.

213

## 214 **Results**

215 Between April 2004 and November 2009, 1241 high-risk women from breast and/or  
216 ovarian cancer families attended clinic (initial visit) and underwent risk assessment  
217 and counselling. Of these, 108 (8.7%) were <35 years and deferred decision making.  
218 Of the remaining 1133 women by November 2009, 265 (21.4%) underwent RRSO  
219 and 868 (69.9%) opted for screening within UKFOCSS. Of the women being  
220 screened, 105 (12.1%) withdrew during the study period. Of these 43 (4.95%)  
221 underwent surgery for a screen detected abnormality, 27 (3.1%) tested negative for a

222 known familial BRCA mutation, 9 (1%) moved residence, 10 (1.1%) changed their  
223 mind and 16 (1.8%) gave no reason for withdrawal. Detailed characteristics of the  
224 cohort are described in Table-1.

225

226 Of the 1133 women, 157 were BRCA1 carriers, 130 were BRCA2 carriers, and 3  
227 carried both a BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation. 843 women had unknown mutation  
228 status, of whom 43% were from breast cancer only, 83% from breast and ovarian  
229 cancer and 95% from ovarian cancer only families. Women undergoing RRSO were  
230 older (median age 49, IQR 12.2years) than those opting for screening (median age  
231 43.4, IQR 11.9 years) ( $p<0.0005$ ). The median time to RRSO was 36.53 (IQR 17.65,  
232 52.64) months. Initial univariate analysis showed that women who carried a BRCA1/2  
233 mutation, were post-menopausal, had a personal history of breast cancer, and were  
234 from breast cancer only families were more likely to opt for RRSO over screening  
235 (Table-1).

236

237 On competing risk analysis the overall cumulative probability of undergoing  
238 prophylactic surgery in the entire cohort over 60 months was 0.29 (95%CI 0.26, 0.32).  
239 The cumulative probability for undergoing RRSO at 5 years was 0.55 (95%CI  
240 0.45,0.64) for BRCA1/2 carriers and 0.22 (95%CI 0.19,0.26) for women of UMS.  
241 Gray's test showed this difference between BRCA carriers and UMS women to be  
242 highly significant ( $p<0.0001$ ) for RRSO but not for competing risk events ( $p=0.111$ )  
243 (Table-2, Fig-1). Similarly the CIF for RRSO was significantly different between pre-  
244 and post-menopausal groups, women with and without a personal history of breast  
245 cancer, those with and without a history of ovarian cancer <50 years in the family,  
246 nulliparous women and those with parity $\geq$ 1, as well as between women from breast

247 cancer only families and those from breast and ovarian/ ovarian only families (Table-  
248 3). Menopausal status ( $p=0.251$ ), a personal history of breast cancer ( $p=0.327$ ),  
249 history of early onset ovarian cancer in the family ( $p=0.698$ ), parity ( $p=0.396$ ) and a  
250 family history of breast cancer ( $p=0.191$ ) did not have any significant affect on  
251 competing risk events (Fig 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d and 2e respectively). We also found the CIF  
252 to be significantly different for RRSO between age groups of 30-40 years, 40-50  
253 years, 50-60 years, 60-70 years and 70-80 years ( $p<0.0001$ , Fig 2f), but not for the  
254 competing risk events ( $p=0.553$ ).

255

256 A competing risk regression assuming proportional subhazards was undertaken to  
257 identify the key covariates from Table-1 which remained significant for RRSO  
258 (Table-4). In the final model, the sub hazard ratios (SHR) were 2.31 (95%CI 1.7,  
259 3.14) for BRCA1/2 carriers, 2.16 (95%CI 1.62, 2.87) for postmenopausal women, and  
260 1.5 (95%CI 1.09, 2.06) for those with a personal history of breast cancer. The SHR of  
261 1.43 (95%CI 0.99, 2.06) for parity $\geq 1$  neared statistical significance ( $p=0.056$ ) and  
262 remained part of the final equation (Table-4). All SHRs were greater than one,  
263 indicating that an increase (or presence) in this factor increased the subhazard and  
264 hence the CIF for RRSO.

265

## 266 **Discussion**

267 Our study highlights that counselling and decision making for women at high risk of  
268 familial ovarian cancer is a complex process and women continue to opt for surgery  
269 many years after their initial risk assessment. It re-emphasises the previously reported  
270 dynamic nature of decision making which changes over time.<sup>23-25</sup> BRCA carriers,

271 postmenopausal women and those who have had breast cancer are significantly more  
272 likely to opt for risk reducing surgery.

273

274 The cumulative probability of undergoing prophylactic surgery in our cohort was 0.29  
275 (95%CI 0.26, 0.32). This is less than most reports in the literature, where varying  
276 RRSO uptake rates ranging from 15% to 78% have been reported, but the majority are  
277 over 48%.<sup>12</sup> However, the bulk of all these reports include BRCA carriers in the main  
278 and are limited by not accounting for time in the analysis. The RRSO rates reported in  
279 previous time to event analysis vary from 45% to 75%.<sup>23-25</sup> A significant factor  
280 accounting for our lower uptake is the larger proportion of women of unknown  
281 mutation status (CIF of 22.2% at 60 months) in our cohort. This low level of uptake in  
282 untested women has been reported in one previous small series,<sup>32</sup> and is in keeping  
283 with previous reports of a positive BRCA genetic test result being a predictor of  
284 RRSO uptake.<sup>32, 33</sup> The CIF for RRSO of 54.5% at 60 months found in BRCA1/2  
285 carriers in our cohort is consistent with one previous time to event analysis<sup>23</sup> but  
286 lower than other reports in the literature.<sup>24, 25, 34</sup> In addition to restricted access to  
287 genetic testing in the UK these differences may also be due to heterogeneity of  
288 populations, individual preferences or other psychosocial factors. The ability to opt  
289 for a national ovarian cancer screening study at our centre may also have contributed  
290 to these results.

291

292 The strengths of our study include its large size, a mixed cohort of women with  
293 known BRCA mutations and unknown mutation status, longitudinal nature of follow-  
294 up, prospectively collected data and use of the competing risk method for analysis. To  
295 the best of our knowledge ours is the largest series with high-risk women who were

296 unable to, or chose not to undergo genetic testing for BRCA1/2 mutations. Our study  
297 is different from previous time to event analysis<sup>24, 25</sup> as it helps to highlight the  
298 differences in genetic testing practices in the UK and elsewhere in the world. Our data  
299 that BRCA carriers are 2.3 times more likely to opt for preventative surgery suggests  
300 that uptake of prophylactic oophorectomy may vary with level of proven ovarian  
301 cancer risk. Such a finding of risk-linked uptake of preventative surgery has  
302 previously been reported for prophylactic mastectomy.<sup>23</sup> One time to event analysis<sup>23</sup>  
303 reported an increased RRSO rate in BRCA1 carriers who are known to have a higher  
304 risk compared to BRCA2 carriers.<sup>23, 35</sup> However, consistent with the Dutch study,<sup>24</sup>  
305 and most other analyses we did not find a significant difference in RRSO rates  
306 between BRCA1 and BRCA2 carriers (p=0.54). Increasing access to genetic testing in  
307 the UK with resultant confirmation of risk may lead to higher RRSO uptake rates with  
308 the potential to reduce ovarian/tubal cancer incidence in high-risk women.

309

310 Our study is one of the few to explore time as a factor in the uptake of preventative  
311 surgery. Another advantage of our study is the use of competing risk methodology. 60  
312 (57%) of the 105 withdrawals in our study were due to a competing risk event. These  
313 women could not have subsequently undergone RRSO. Within a routine Kaplan-  
314 Meier analysis these cases would be considered at similar risk of subsequent events as  
315 other subjects with continued follow-up. In fact most other studies do not report  
316 details of reasons for salpingo-oophorectomy. Competing risks have not been reported  
317 in three previous time-to-event analyses of preventative surgery for BRCA carriers.<sup>23-</sup>  
318 <sup>25</sup> It is possible this bias may have contributed to the higher rates of prophylactic  
319 salpingo-oophorectomy reported in those series.

320

321 We found that women continue to opt for RRSO many months / years after their  
322 initial decision. A significant proportion of BRCA carriers underwent surgery >12-24  
323 months after their initial counselling appointment following results of genetic testing  
324 (Table-2). This is in contrast with most previous reports suggesting that BRCA  
325 carriers undergo surgery within a year after learning their genetic test result<sup>36-38</sup> but  
326 consistent with three recent time to event analysis<sup>24, 25</sup> indicating that BRCA carriers  
327 continue to opt for surgery many years later. Our data indicate that this finding also  
328 holds true for women with unknown mutation status, with only half of those women  
329 opting for surgery doing so within 12 months of their initial consultation (Table-2).  
330 The overall median time to RRSO in our study was greater than the Chicago study<sup>25</sup>  
331 but similar to a Dutch study.<sup>24</sup>

332

333 Consistent with findings of others,<sup>25, 32, 36, 39</sup> including two previous time to event  
334 analysis,<sup>24, 25</sup> we found that increasing age (Fig 2f) and having children (Fig 2d) were  
335 factors associated with RRSO uptake. The median age of women opting for RRSO in  
336 our study is slightly older than most other reports in the literature, including the Dutch  
337 and Chicago study.<sup>24, 25</sup> The Manchester study<sup>23</sup> like ours found a significant  
338 difference in RRSO uptake across age groups. However, they reported higher uptake  
339 rates with time in younger women, while we found an increasing RRSO uptake with  
340 increasing age (Fig 2f). Postmenopausal women in our study were 2.16 times more  
341 likely to opt for RRSO. Although menopause was not reported as an independent risk  
342 factor in previous time to event analyses it has been found to be of importance in  
343 other studies.<sup>34</sup> Pre-menopausal women are more likely to be younger, nulliparous,  
344 have concerns regarding detrimental effects of the menopause and hence, delay  
345 surgery.<sup>23, 25</sup>

346 Our finding of a personal history of breast cancer being associated with increased  
347 RRSO uptake was not reported in earlier time to event analyses<sup>23-25</sup> but has been  
348 described by other series.<sup>13, 21, 38, 40, 41</sup> However, in contrast with some other reports we  
349 did not find that having a first degree relative with ovarian cancer<sup>35, 42</sup> or a family  
350 history of early onset breast cancer were significant predictors of RRSO. The finding  
351 that a history of early onset ovarian cancer (<50 years) in the family was inversely  
352 associated with uptake of preventive surgery on univariate analysis is likely to be a  
353 confounding effect or chance finding as it was not maintained following multivariable  
354 competing risk regression analysis. Although the Chicago study reported a family  
355 history of ovarian cancer to be a significantly associated with RRSO uptake, this was  
356 not observed in our study or the other time to event analyses.<sup>23, 24</sup> We did not find  
357 Jewish ethnicity to be a factor affecting uptake of risk reducing surgery in our cohort.  
358 A lower surgical uptake has been reported in some minority populations such as  
359 African-American populations.<sup>25</sup>

360

361 Multivariable regression analysis (Table-4) indicated that the main factors affecting  
362 decision making were having a BRCA gene mutation, being postmenopausal, a  
363 personal history of breast cancer and having children. The fact that these factors did  
364 not have any significant effect on competing risk events (Fig 1, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d) is  
365 reassuring as it suggests that competing risk events in the cohort occurred  
366 independently of co-variables of significance. Although Gray's test showed a  
367 significant difference in RRSO uptake across age groups, age was not part of the final  
368 model, as the effect of this variable was probably accounted for by menopausal status  
369 in the equation. It is interesting to note that the SHR for postmenopausal status was  
370 similar to that for carrying a BRCA carrier status indicating that the magnitude/

371 contribution of these factors towards decision making was similar in high-risk  
372 women. Limitations of our analysis are that we lacked data on factors such as  
373 psychosocial factors, perceived risk, cancer worry and fear of surgery, which have  
374 been shown to affect uptake of preventative surgery.<sup>34, 43, 44</sup> In addition it was not  
375 possible to assess whether decision making varied depending on the individual  
376 clinician (from the familial clinic team) seen at each consultation.

377

378 The study has important implications for counselling/ management and for planning/  
379 commissioning of services of women at high-risk of familial ovarian/tubal cancer,  
380 particularly in the UK and other countries with restricted access to genetic testing. It  
381 adds to the knowledge base related to factors influencing RRSO in high-risk women  
382 and the amount of time that this decision-making process can take. It also highlights  
383 the large number of high-risk families with no living cancer affected relatives who  
384 could benefit from expanded genetic testing to further clarify their cancer risks as well  
385 as access to risk management options.

386

### 387 **Conclusion**

388 A large number of high-risk women find bilateral salpingo-oophorectomy to be an  
389 acceptable option for reducing their risk of ovarian and tubal cancer. Decision making  
390 is a complex and dynamic process which changes over time. Women continue to opt  
391 for surgery many years after their initial counselling and risk assessment. Clinicians  
392 should pursue follow-up opportunities with their high-risk patients as many will delay  
393 decision making. A number of different factors affect uptake of risk reducing surgery  
394 in these women. RRSO uptake is risk dependent with lower uptake rates in high risk  
395 women who are unaware of their mutation status. A number of women delay surgery



396 until they have completed their families or reached the menopause. Known BRCA  
397 carriers and women who have had breast cancer are more likely to opt for  
398 preventative surgery. Recognition and appreciation of these matters can assist in  
399 planning and commissioning of services for high-risk women. Relaxation of BRCA  
400 testing criteria in the UK may lead to greater access to genetic testing, detection of  
401 more carriers and increased RRSO uptake. Risk management options need to be  
402 individualised for each woman and it is important for clinicians to be aware of these  
403 issues when counselling women at increased risk.

404

405

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416 IJ has consultancy arrangements with Becton Dickinson, who have an interest in  
417 tumour markers and ovarian cancer. IJ and UM have a financial interest in Abcodia,  
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425

426 **Contribution to authorship**

427 RM, AA and MJ were involved in initial data collection. RM, UM, IJ were involved  
428 in analysis, drafting and writing of the paper. MB and RM performed the statistical  
429 analysis and contributed to writing the statistical sections of the manuscript. ANR,  
430 LS, ES, AA, AS, DO, SG, MJ, CB, EB contributed to writing of the manuscript. UM,

431 IJ, RM, ANR, CB, LS, SG, ES, EB, AS, DO were responsible for the clinical care of  
432 the patients. The final draft was prepared by RM, UM, IJ and approved by the others.

433

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435 The project was referred to the Chair of the Research Ethics committee (National  
436 Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery & institute of Neurology Joint REC,  
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446

#### 447 **Copyright Statement**

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545 [cer/gcrc/ukfocss/fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.instituteforwomenshealth.ucl.ac.uk/academic_research/gynaecologicalcancer/gcrc/ukfocss/fact_sheet.pdf).

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602 **TABLES LIST**

603 **Table-1: Baseline characteristics of the cohort**

604

605 FDR- First degree relative, FH- Family History, HBC- High-risk breast cancer only

606 family, HBOC- high-risk breast and ovarian cancer family, HOC- High-risk ovarian

607 cancer only family, IQR- Inter-quartile range, RRSO- Risk reducing salpingo-

608 oophorectomy, UMS- Unknown mutation status, yrs- years

609

610 **Table-2: Cumulative RRSO Probability (CIF) by BRCA1/2 status over time**

611

612

613 CIF- Cumulative Incidence Function, CI- confidence interval, RRSO- Risk reducing

614 salpingo-oophorectomy , UMS- Unknown mutation status,

615

616 **Table-3: Cumulative RRSO Probability (CIF) at 5 years**

617

618 CIF- Cumulative Incidence Function, CI- confidence interval, FH- family history,

619 h/o- history of, RRSO- Risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy

620

621 **Table-4: Competing Risk Multivariable Regression Analysis**

622 CI- confidence interval, SHR- Sub-Hazard Ratio, Std. Err- standard error, Self Breast

623 Cancer- personal history of breast cancer.

624

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629 **Figure-1: Cumulative Incidence Function (CIF) for RRSO and competing risk**  
630 **by BRCA1/2 status**

631

632

633 BRCA yes- BRCA1/BRCA2 carriers

634 BRCA No- Unknown mutation status

635 Surgery- RRSO (Risk Reducing Salpingo-oophorectomy)

636

637 **Figure 2: Cumulative Incidence Function (CIF) for RRSO and competing risk**

638 Figure 2a: CIF for RRSO and competing risk by menopausal status

639 Figure 2b: CIF for RRSO and competing risk by personal history of breast cancer

640 Figure 2c: CIF for RRSO and competing risk by family history of ovarian cancer <50

641 years

642 Figure 2d: CIF for RRSO and competing risk by Parity

643 Figure 2e: CIF for RRSO and competing risk by high risk breast cancer family

644 Figure 2f: CIF for RRSO and competing risk by Age groups 30-40 years, 40-50 years,

645 50-60 years, 60-70 years and 70-80 years

646

647 Surgery- RRSO (Risk Reducing Salpingo-oophorectomy)

648 PM- post-menopausal

649 Yrs- years

650 Parity1+: Parity  $\geq 1$

651 Parity0= Nulliparous: Baseline CIF

652

653

**Table-1: Baseline characteristics of the cohort**

	RRSO (n= 265)	Screening (n= 868)	p value
<b>Median age (IQR)</b>	<b>49 (12.2)</b>	<b>43.4 (11.9)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0005<sup>‡</sup></b>
<b>BRCA 1,2 Carriers</b>	<b>111 (41.9%)</b>	<b>179 (20.6%)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0005<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>BRCA1</b>	<b>63 (23.8%)</b>	<b>97 (11.2 %)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0005<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>BRCA2</b>	<b>48 (16.7%)</b>	<b>85 (7.7%)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0005<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>BRCA1+2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1<sup>*</sup></b>
<b>UMS</b>	<b>154 (58.1%)</b>	<b>689 (79.4%)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0005<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>Post-menopausal</b>	<b>138 (52.1%)</b>	<b>251 (28.9%)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0005<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>Parity ≥1</b>	<b>189/225 (84%)</b>	<b>624/818 (76.3%)</b>	<b>0.013<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>Jewish Ancestry</b>	<b>54/254 (18%)</b>	<b>203/847 (19.5%)</b>	<b>0.371<sup>#</sup></b>
<b><u>FAMILY HISTORY</u></b>			
<b>HBC</b>	<b>76/259 (29.3%)</b>	<b>195/847 (23%)</b>	<b>0.038<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>HBOC</b>	<b>150/259 (57.9%)</b>	<b>517/847 (61%)</b>	<b>0.369<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>HOC</b>	<b>31/259 (12%)</b>	<b>133/846 (15.7%)</b>	<b>0.162<sup>*</sup></b>
<b>FDR Breast cancer</b>	<b>138/258 (53.5%)</b>	<b>443/846 (52.4%)</b>	<b>0.752<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>FDR Ovarian cancer</b>	<b>125/258 (48.4%)</b>	<b>455/845 (53.8%)</b>	<b>0.129<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>FH of Ovarian cancer &lt;50yrs</b>	<b>64/257 (24.9%)</b>	<b>271/846 (32%)</b>	<b>0.029<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>FH of Breast cancer &lt;45yrs</b>	<b>148/257 (57.6%)</b>	<b>466/845 (55.1%)</b>	<b>0.491<sup>#</sup></b>
<b>Self breast cancer</b>	<b>97/258 (37.6%)</b>	<b>157/845 (18.6%)</b>	<b>&lt;0.0005<sup>#</sup></b>

FDR- First degree relative, FH- Family History, HBC- High-risk breast cancer only family, HBOC- high-risk breast and ovarian cancer family, HOC- High-risk ovarian cancer only family, IQR- Inter-quartile range, RRSO- Risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy, UMS- Unknown mutation status, yrs- years

# Chi Square, \* Fisher's exact test, ‡ Mann Whitney Test

Using a Bonferroni correction for multiple testing the above p values should be compared with a critical value of  $\alpha= 0.003$

**Table-2: Cumulative RRSO Probability (CIF) by BRCA1/2 status over time**

<b>Months</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>Gray's Test</b>
<b>BRCA1/2 CIF</b>	<b>0.299</b>	<b>0.381</b>	<b>0.429</b>	<b>0.482</b>	<b>0.545</b>	<b>RRSO incidence BRCA1/2 vs. UMS: p&lt;0.0001</b>
<b>95% CI</b>	<b>(0.243, 0.355)</b>	<b>(0.319, 0.443)</b>	<b>(0.362, 0.496)</b>	<b>(0.406, 0.557)</b>	<b>(0.449, 0.641)</b>	
<b>UMS CIF</b>	<b>0.114</b>	<b>0.173</b>	<b>0.192</b>	<b>0.204</b>	<b>0.222</b>	<b>Competing Risk incidence BRCA1/2 vs. UMS: p= 0.111</b>
<b>95% CI</b>	<b>(0.092, 0.136)</b>	<b>(0.146, 0.200)</b>	<b>(0.163, 0.221)</b>	<b>(0.174, 0.234)</b>	<b>(0.189, 0.256)</b>	

CIF- Cumulative Incidence Function, CI- confidence interval, RRSO- Risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy , UMS- Unknown mutation status,

**Table-3: Cumulative RRSO Probability (CIF) at 5 years**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Cumulative RRSO Probability</b>	<b>95% CI</b>	<b>Gray's Test</b>	<b>Figure</b>
<b>Premenopausal</b>	0.23	0.19, 0.27	p<0.0001	2a
<b>Postmenopausal</b>	0.42	0.36, 0.47		
<b>Personal h/o breast cancer</b>	0.47	0.39, 0.55	p<0.0001	2b
<b>No personal h/o breast cancer</b>	0.24	0.21, 0.28		
<b>FH of early onset ovarian cancer</b>	0.23	0.18, 0.28	p=0.006	2c
<b>No FH of early onset ovarian cancer</b>	0.32	0.28, 0.37		
<b>Nulliparous</b>	0.20	0.14, 0.27	p=0.009	2d
<b>Parity≥1</b>	0.29	0.25, 0.33		
<b>FH: breast cancer only family</b>	0.35	0.43, 0.28	p=0.006	2e
<b>FH: breast and ovarian/ovarian cancer only families</b>	0.27	0.24, 0.31		

CIF- Cumulative Incidence Function, CI- confidence interval, FH- family history, h/o- history of, RRSO- Risk reducing salpingo-oophorectomy

**Table-4: Competing Risk Multivariable Regression Analysis for RRSO**

<b>Co-variate</b>	<b>SHR</b>	<b>Std. Err.</b>	<b>z</b>	<b>P&gt;z</b>	<b>[95% CI]</b>	
<b>Parity <math>\geq</math>1</b>	<b>1.428</b>	<b>0.266221</b>	<b>1.91</b>	<b>0.056</b>	<b>0.990813</b>	<b>2.05776</b>
<b>Postmenopausal</b>	<b>2.158</b>	<b>0.314172</b>	<b>5.28</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>	<b>1.621955</b>	<b>2.870272</b>
<b>BRCA1/2</b>	<b>2.314</b>	<b>0.361977</b>	<b>5.36</b>	<b>&lt;0.0001</b>	<b>1.70296</b>	<b>3.14422</b>
<b>Self Breast Cancer</b>	<b>1.501</b>	<b>0.243502</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>0.012</b>	<b>1.0921</b>	<b>2.062774</b>

CI- confidence interval, SHR- Sub-Hazard Ratio, Std. Err- standard error, Self Breast

Cancer- personal history of breast cancer.

## CIFs for Event type by BRCA status

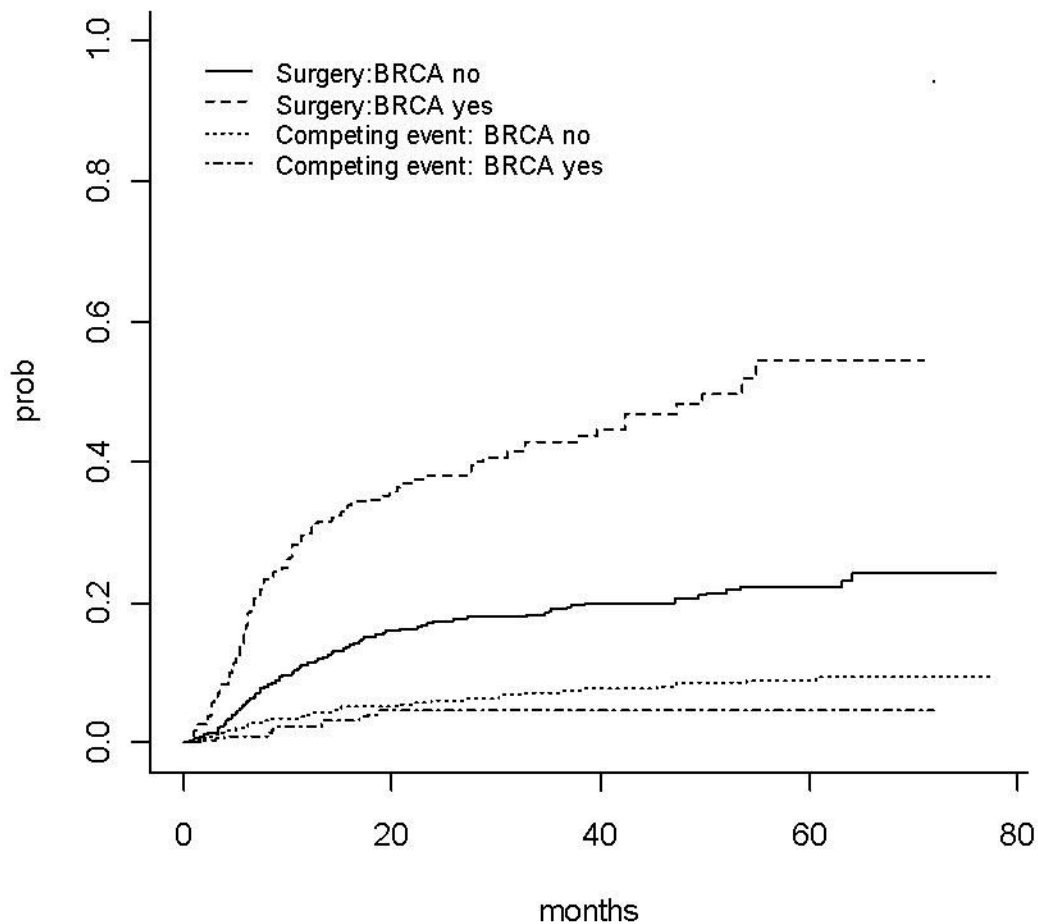




Figure 2a

## CIFs for event type by PM status

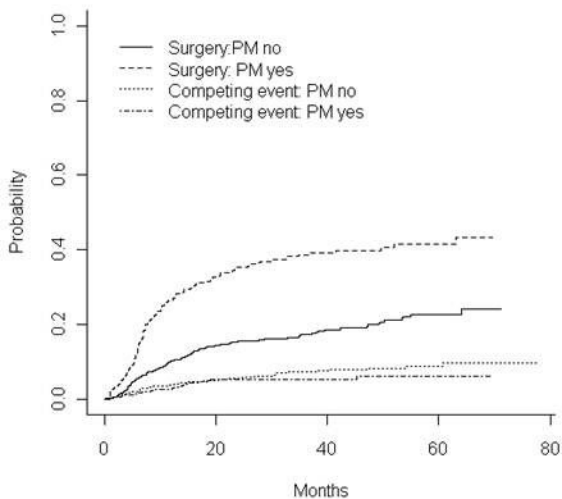


Figure 2b

## CIFs for event type by self Breast Cancer status

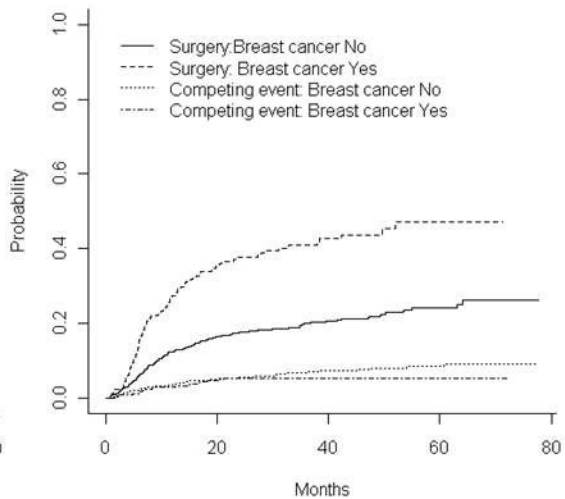


Figure 2c

## CIFs for event type by Ovarian Cancer&lt;50yrs status

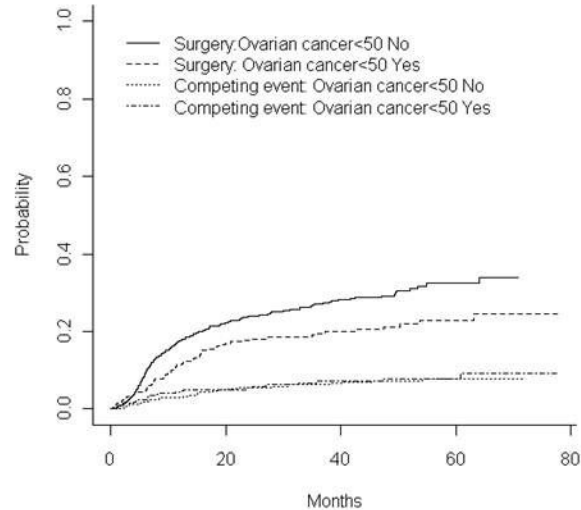


Figure 2d

## CIFs for event type by Parity status

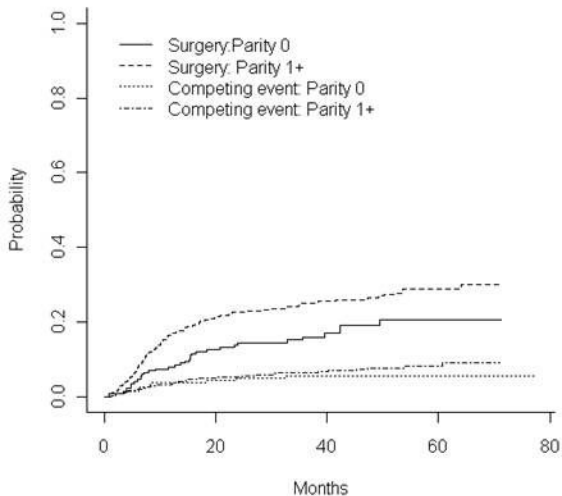


Figure 2e

## CIFs for event type by BC family risk status

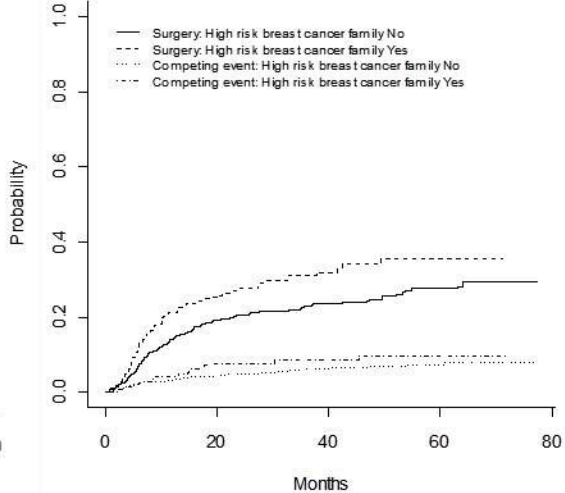


Figure 2f

## CIFs for RRSO by Age group

