

Gynaecological Surgery

Sexuality Issues

The Gynaecological Cancer Society is a registered medical charity with the aim of providing practical assistance to gynaecological cancer patients, their carers, healthcare professionals and others with an interest in the field of gynaecological cancer.

The Society provides a range of direct services to stakeholders. These may include:

- Financial distress assistance
- Authoritative information and education material
- Emotional Support Help-line 1800-700-288

The Society is also involved in funding and fundraising for medical research into the causes and treatments for gynaecological cancer.

A major element of the Society's work is the Information and Education Programme.

The Programme aims to provide stakeholders with the opportunity to obtain timely,

authoritative, holistic information regarding all aspects of gynaecological cancer treatment and management.

The Programme comprises:

- A 40,000 page internet site at www.gcsau.org
- 24 titles of printed information and educational material
- A CD-Rom of the Internet site for use where Internet access is limited

We rely heavily upon **donations** to fund our assistance Programmes. All donations to the Society are **income tax deductible** and greatly appreciated. Contact details are listed below.

Questions regarding this leaflet content or any of our services may also be addressed to the contact details below.

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Possible Sexuality Issues Involved With Gynaecological Cancer Surgery

Treatment	Low Sexual Desire	Less Vaginal Moisture	Reduced Vaginal Size	Painful Intercourse	Trouble Reaching Orgasm	Infertility
Chemotherapy	Sometimes	Often	Rarely	Often	Rarely	Often
Pelvic radiation therapy	Rarely	Often	Often	Often	Rarely	Always
Radical hysterectomy	Rarely	Often *	Often	Rarely	Rarely	Always
Removal of the ovaries	Rarely	Often *	Always	Sometimes	Rarely	Always
Bowel resection	Sometimes	Often *	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rarely	Sometimes
Total pelvic exenteration with vaginal reconstruction	Sometimes	Always	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Always
Radical vulvectomy	Rarely	Never	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Never
Conization of the cervix	Never	Never	Never	Rarely	Never	Rarely
Oophorectomy (removal of one tube & ovary)	Rarely	Never *	Never *	Rarely	Never	Rarely
Oophorectomy (removal of both tubes & ovaries)	Rarely	Often *	Never *	Rarely *	Rarely	Always
Progesterone therapy for uterine cancer	Sometimes	Often	Sometimes	Sometimes	Rarely	Always

* Vaginal dryness and size changes should not occur if one ovary is able to be retained or if hormone replacement therapy is undertaken.