ESGO Gynaecological Oncology Exam
Recommended readings

Table of Content

1. Definitions: .......................................................................................................................... 2
2. Basic sciences ...................................................................................................................... 2
   2.1. Anatomy and Histology ......................................................................................... 2
   2.2. Oncology .................................................................................................................. 2
   2.3. Genetics .................................................................................................................... 3
   2.4. Pathology ................................................................................................................ 3
   2.5. Statistics and epidemiology .................................................................................... 4
   2.6. Microbiology ........................................................................................................ 4
   2.7. Biochemistry ........................................................................................................ 5
   2.8. Biophysics ............................................................................................................... 5
   2.9. Immunology .......................................................................................................... 6
   2.10. Pharmacology ...................................................................................................... 6
3. Clinical Sciences ................................................................................................................. 7
   3.1. Gynaecological Cancers ......................................................................................... 7
   3.2. Breast cancer .......................................................................................................... 8
   3.3. Imaging .................................................................................................................... 8
   3.4. Surgical management ............................................................................................ 8
   3.5. Radiotherapy ......................................................................................................... 10
   3.6. Systemic Treatment .............................................................................................. 11
      3.6.1. Chemotherapy .............................................................................................. 11
      3.6.2. Endocrine therapy ......................................................................................... 12
      3.6.3. Targeted therapy .......................................................................................... 13
      3.6.4. Immunotherapy ............................................................................................ 13
   3.7. Clinical trials .......................................................................................................... 13
   3.8. Special topics ......................................................................................................... 14
   3.9. Psychology ............................................................................................................. 14
   3.10. Palliative and Terminal care ................................................................................ 15
1. Definitions:
   - Basic Knowledge: basic understanding of the topics related to the gynaecological cancers.
   - Detailed knowledge: a deep understanding and knowledge of all the topics which are important in the development, diagnosis, prevention and management of gynaecological cancers

2. Basic sciences

2.1. Anatomy and Histology

- Detailed knowledge of the regional anatomy and histology of the pelvis, abdomen (including relevant bones, joints, muscles, blood vessels, lymphatics and nerve supply), thorax, particularly in relation to surgical procedures undertaken by the gynaecological oncologist.


2.2 Oncology

- Detailed knowledge of carcinogenesis, progression, invasion and metastasis.
- Detailed knowledge of cellular and molecular biology.

1. ESMO Handbook of translational research, 2015.
2.3 Genetics

- Detailed knowledge of cancer genetics including hereditary risk factors.
- Detailed knowledge of genetic changes in tumors and their consequence for surgical and non-surgical treatment.


2.4 Pathology

- Detailed knowledge of the cytology and histology of gynaecological cancers and precursors.

2.5 Statistics and epidemiology

- Detailed knowledge of collection, management, and statistical analysis and the collection of data and samples in patients with gynecological cancers.
- Detailed knowledge of setting up and interpreting clinical trials.
- Detailed knowledge of environmental factors in relation to gynaecological cancers.
- Detailed knowledge of principles and strategies in cancer prevention.
- Detailed knowledge of the principles of patient data protection


2.6 Microbiology

- Detailed knowledge of the role of infective agents on perioperative care and management during systemic treatment.
- Detailed knowledge of the role of infective agents in carcinogenesis, their impact on perioperative care and management with systemic treatment.


2.7 Biochemistry

- Basic knowledge of nutrition and metabolism in relation to gynaecological oncological surgery and the systemic treatment of gynaecological cancers
- Detailed knowledge of hemostasis, and (patho-)physiology of blood variables changes during the development and management of gynaecological cancers, including tumor markers.


2.8 Biophysics

- Detailed knowledge of the physical principles and biological effects of imaging and interventional techniques involving e.g. heat, light, sound, electromagnetism and radioactivity.


2.9 Immunology

- **Detailed knowledge of immune mechanisms involved in host defense in cancer and rations for immunotherapy (tumor immunology).**


2.10 Pharmacology

- **Basic knowledge of the pharmacology of drugs used in the management of gynaecological cancers**
- **Detailed knowledge of the properties, pharmacodynamics, actions, interactions and hazards of pharmacological agents which are used in the management of gynaecological cancers**
- **Basic knowledge of the short term and longterm effects of therapy, including development of secondary malignancies.**
- **Basic knowledge of the pharmacokinetic concepts and parameters where we can include also locoregional treatments (IP and IA)**
3. Clinical Sciences


3.1. Gynaecological Cancers

- **Detailed knowledge of epidemiology, aetiology, prevention, screening, diagnostic techniques, prognostic factors and staging of gynaecological tumors and their management including primary and secondary prevention.**

13. I. Ray-Coquard et al, on behalf of the ESMO Guidelines Committee. Non-epithelial ovarian cancer: ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment and follow-up. Annals of Oncology 00: 1–18, 2018

3.2 Breast cancer

- **Basic knowledge of epidemiology, aetiology, prevention and management of breast cancer.**

1. ESGO Textbook of Cancer in pregnancy, 2017

3.3 Imaging

- **Detailed knowledge of imaging techniques, including ultrasound, computer assisted tomography (CT), nuclear imaging (planar scintigraphy, positron emission tomography (PET- PET/CT) and single photon emission computed tomography (SPECT)), and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) used in the management of gynaecological cancers, including indications and interpretation**
- **Detailed knowledge of image-guided procedures**


3.4 Surgical management

- **Detailed knowledge of all relevant surgical procedures used in the management of gynaecological cancers including reconstructive surgical procedures used in in the management of gynaecological cancers.**
- **Detailed knowledge and experience in preoperative assessment and preparation for surgery (antibiotic prophylaxis, antithrombotic prophylaxis, bowel prep, surgical site infection prevention) and detailed knowledge in postoperative management.**
• Detailed knowledge of the complications of surgery in gynaecological oncology (classification) and of perioperative care (including principles of ERAS (Enhanced Recovery After Surgery).
• Basic knowledge of the applications, techniques and complications of anaesthesia and intensive care, nausea and vomiting prevention.


5. Lucas Minig, MD, PhD, MBA1, Florian Heitz, MD2, David Cibula, MD et al. Patterns of Lymph Node Metastases in Apparent Stage I Low-Grade Epithelial Ovarian Cancer: A Multicenter Study. Ann Surg Oncol 2017 Sep;24(9):2720-2726.


9. Robert L. Coleman, Danielle Enserro, Nick Spiritos, Thomas J. Herzog, Paul Sabbatini, Deborah Kay Armstrong, A phase III randomized controlled trial of secondary surgical cytoreduction (SSC) followed by platinum-based combination chemotherapy (PBC), with or without bevacizumab (B) in platinum-sensitive, recurrent ovarian cancer (PSOC): A NRG Oncology/Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG) study, ASCO 2018 J Clin Oncol 36, 2018 (suppl; abstr 5501)

10. Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy in Ovarian Cancer. van Driel WJ1, Koole SN1, Sikorska K1, Schagen van Leeuwen JH1, Schreuder HWR1, Hermans RH1, de Hingh IHJT1, van der Velden J1, Arts HJ1, Massuger LFAG1, Aalbers AGJ1, Verwaal VJ1, Kieffer JM1, Van de Vijver KK1, van Tinteren H1, Aaronson NK1, Sonke GS1. N Engl J Med. 2018 Jan 18;378(3):230-240. 


21. ESGO Textbook of gynaecological Oncology, ESGO, 2016

Phase III randomized trial of laparoscopic or robotic versus abdominal radical hysterectomy in patients with early-stage cervical cancer: LACC Trial , SGO 2018


24. Treatment considerations in vulva carcinoma with loco-regional recurrence. ESGO eAcademy. Van Der Zee A. Oct 21, 2013; 39103. GROINSS-V I study eligibility criteria, Vulvar Cancer guideline ESGO


27. The Managament of uterine sarcomas. ESGO eAcademy.

3.5 Radiotherapy

3.5.1: Basic knowledge of radiobiology

3.5.2: Detailed knowledge of indications for radiotherapy used in the management of gynaecological cancers (curative, adjuvant and palliative).
3.5.3: Radiotherapy in combination with other treatments:

1. Detailed knowledge on the use of e.g. chemotherapy or other drugs in combination with radiotherapy.

2. Basic knowledge on the role of hyperthermia in combination with radiotherapy.

3.5.4 Basic knowledge on the role, side effects and indications of the different radiotherapy modalities (external beam, brachytherapy, ...).

3.5.5: Detailed knowledge of the acute and late toxicity (symptoms and management) of radiotherapy in its different modalities and combination with different agents


7. Nout et al, Lancet 2010

8. Adoption and impact of concurrent chemoradiation therapy for vaginal cancer: a National Data Base study, Rajagopalan MS, Gynaecological Oncology 2014, dec

3.6. Systemic Treatment

3.6.1 Chemotherapy

- Detailed knowledge of chemotherapy and selected targeted treatments in the management of gynaecological cancers:


3.6.2 Endocrine therapy

- **Detailed knowledge of and experience in the use of endocrine therapy in gynaecological oncology.**
- **Detailed knowledge of state of the art treatment options**
- **Detailed knowledge of adverse effects and its management**

3.6.3 Targeted therapy

- Detailed knowledge of and experience in the use of novel targeted agents in gynaecological oncology.
- Detailed knowledge of state of the art treatment options
- Detailed knowledge of adverse effects and its management


3.6.4 Immunotherapy

- Detailed knowledge of the use of immunotherapy in gynaecological oncology.
- Detailed knowledge of state of the art treatment options
- Detailed knowledge of adverse effects and its management

1. ESMO Clinical Practice Guidelines, Supportive Care 2017.

3.7 Clinical trials

- Detailed knowledge in the principles of clinical trial conduction.
- Basic knowledge of clinical trial statistics
- Basic knowledge of protocol writing, including QOL topics, GCP, ....
- Detailed knowledge of understanding and interpreting clinical trial results
- Basic knowledge of the requirements for performing studies in the EU and in different European countries.

1. Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice E6(R1)

3.8 Special topics

- Detailed knowledge of cancer in pregnancy
- Detailed knowledge of cancer in the elderly or frail patients
- Detailed knowledge of survivorship issues
- Detailed knowledge on the organisation (how, why and when to organize) of multidisciplinary decisions in the management of gynaecological cancers.

2. ESGO eAcademy: Frailty evaluation and medical treatment of elderly population with gynaecological malignancies.

3.9 Psychology

- Basic knowledge of the psychological management of patients treated for a gynaecological cancer.
• **Detailed knowledge of the principles and management of sexual dysfunction of patients treated for a gynaecological cancer.**


3.10 Palliative and Terminal care

• **Detailed knowledge in palliative care and the management of terminal care of patients treated for a gynaecological cancer.**

• **Detailed knowledge of medical/surgical options for bowel occlusion, pain and other symptoms management of patients with gynaecological cancers.**


