Teratoma

Teratoma is classified as a germ cell tumor occurring in the early reproductive years. They are mostly benign and contain tissue from all three germ layers: ectoderm, mesoderm, and endoderm. Tumors may have skin, hair, bone, teeth, and thyroid tissue. A dermoid cyst, or mature teratoma, is the most common ovarian germ tumor and is usually benign. Immature teratomas are aggressively malignant and are made of histologically immature tissue. Struma ovarii is a rare type of benign teratoma composed of mainly thyroid tissue.



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Germ-cell Tumor
German-ovaries
Teratoma comprises 90% of ovarian germ cell tumors and may contain tissue from all three germ layers.

Dermoid Cyst (Benign and Mature Teratoma)
Drummed Cyst with Bunny on Old Tarantula
A dermoid cyst, or mature teratoma, is the most common ovarian germ cell tumor and is most often benign. This type of cystic growth is filled with various tissue types, including fat, teeth, hair, bone, and thyroid tissue. Malignancy rarely occurs and is sporadically reported, and usually presents in the form of squamous cell carcinoma (SCC) arising from a mature cystic teratoma of the ovary.

Immature Teratoma (Malignant)
Baby Tarantula with Malignant-man
Immature teratomas are composed of histologically immature tissue and are aggressively malignant. These tumors are comprised of three germ layers and may resemble fetal tissue. Malignancy usually arises from neuroectodermal tissue.

Struma Ovarii
Strudel with Thigh-tarantula
A rare type of teratoma, struma ovarii is composed mainly of thyroid tissue and is usually benign.

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