

O-RADS™ Risk Categorization and Management Quick Reference

Table 1. O-RADS™ Ultrasound Risk Stratification and Management System for Classic Benign Lesions (O-RADS™ 2)

Lexicon	Descriptors and Definitions	Management
Typical Hemorrhagic Cyst	<p>For any atypical features on initial or follow-up exam, use other lexicon descriptors (e.g., unilocular, multilocular, solid, etc.).</p> <p>Unilocular cyst, no internal vascularity*, <u>and at least one</u> of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reticular pattern (fine, thin intersecting lines representing fibrin strands)• Retractile clot intracystic component with straight, concave, or angular margins	<p>Management</p> <p>If sonographic features are only suggestive, and overall assessment is uncertain, consider follow-up US within 3 months.</p> <p>Imaging⁺:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Premenopausal:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ ≤5 cm: None○ >5 cm but <10 cm: Follow-up US in 2-3 months• Postmenopausal:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <10 cm, options to confirm include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Follow-up US in 2-3 months▪ US specialist (if available)▪ MRI (with O-RADS MRI score) <p>Clinical: Referral to a Gynecologist**</p> <p>Note: Hemorrhagic cysts typically do not occur in post-menopausal people. If this is the case for your person, consider recategorizing the lesion with other lexicon descriptors.</p>

Lexicon	Descriptors and Definitions For any atypical features on initial or follow-up exam, use other lexicon descriptors (e.g., unilocular, multilocular, solid, etc.).	Management If sonographic features are only suggestive, and overall assessment is uncertain, consider follow-up US within 3 months.
Typical Dermoid Cyst	<p>Cystic lesion with ≤ 3 locules, no internal vascularity*, and at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hyperechoic component(s) (diffuse or regional) with shadowing • Hyperechoic lines and dots • Floating echogenic spherical structures 	<p>Imaging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ≤ 3 cm: May consider follow-up US in 12 months*** • >3 cm but <10 cm: If not surgically excised, follow-up US in 12 months*** <p>Clinical: Referral to a Gynecologist**</p>
Typical Endometrioma	<p>Cystic lesion with ≤ 3 locules, no internal vascularity*, homogeneous low-level/ground glass echoes, and smooth inner walls/ septation(s)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \pm Peripheral punctate echogenic foci in wall 	<p>Imaging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premenopausal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <10 cm: If not surgically excised, follow-up US in 12 months*** • Postmenopausal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <10 cm and <u>initial exam</u>, options to confirm include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Follow-up US in 2-3 months ▪ US specialist (if available) ▪ MRI (with O-RADS MRI score) <p>Then, if not surgically excised, recommend follow-up US in 12 months***</p> <p>Clinical: Referral to a Gynecologist**</p>
Typical Paraovarian Cyst	Simple cyst separate from the ovary	<p>Imaging: None</p> <p>Clinical: None</p>

Lexicon	Descriptors and Definitions For any atypical features on initial or follow-up exam, use other lexicon descriptors (e.g., unilocular, multilocular, solid, etc.).	Management If sonographic features are only suggestive, and overall assessment is uncertain, consider follow-up US within 3 months.
Typical Peritoneal Inclusion Cyst	Fluid collection with ovary at margin or suspended within that conforms to adjacent pelvic organs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ± Septations (representing adhesions) 	
Typical Hydrosalpinx	Anechoic, fluid-filled tubular structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ± Incomplete septation(s) (representing adhesions) • Endosalpingeal folds (short, round projections around the inner walls) 	Imaging: None Clinical: Referral to a Gynecologist**

MRI = magnetic resonance imaging; US = ultrasound

*Excludes vascularity in walls or intervening septation(s)

**As needed for management of clinical issues

***There is currently a paucity of evidence for defining the need, optimal duration, or interval of timing for surveillance. If stable, consider US follow-up at 24 months from initial exam, then as clinically indicated.

Specifically, evidence does support an increasing risk of malignancy in endometriomas following menopause and those present greater than 10 years. See [O-RADS US Risk Stratification and Management System: A Consensus Guideline from the ACR O-RADS Committee](#) for additional information.

+The recommendation differs from O-RADS™ v2022.

Table 2. O-RADS™ Ultrasound Risk Stratification and Management System Adapted for the Ontario Healthcare Context

O-RADS™ Score	Risk Category	Lexicon Descriptors	Management		
			Premenopausal	Postmenopausal	
0	Incomplete Evaluation [N/A]	Lesions features relevant for risk stratification cannot be accurately characterized due to technical factors	Repeat US study or MRI		
1	Normal Ovary [N/A]	No ovarian lesion	None		
		Physiologic cyst: follicle (≤ 3 cm) or corpus luteum (typically ≤ 3 cm)			
2	Almost certainly benign [<1%]	Simple Cyst	≤ 3 cm	N/A (see follicle)	
			>3 to 5 cm	None	
			>5 to <10 cm	Follow-up US in 12 months*	
		Unilocular, smooth, non-simple cyst, smooth (internal echoes and/or incomplete septations) Bilocular, smooth cyst	≤ 3 cm	None	
			>3 cm to <10 cm	Follow-up US in 6 months*	
		Typical benign ovarian lesion (Table 1)	<10 cm	See Table 1 (Classic Benign Lesions) for descriptors and management	
		Typical benign extraovarian lesion (Table 1)	Any size		
3	Low Risk Malignancy [1 - <10%]	Typical benign ovarian lesion (Table 1), ≥ 10 cm		<p>Imaging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If not surgically excised, consider follow-up US within 6 months** • If solid, may consider US specialist (if available) <i>or</i> MRI (with O-RADS MRI score)*** 	
		Uni- or bilocular cyst, smooth, ≥ 10 cm			
		Unilocular cyst, irregular, any size			
		Multilocular cyst, smooth, <10 cm, CS <4			
		Solid lesion, \pm shadowing, smooth, any size, CS = 1			
		Solid lesion, shadowing, smooth, any size, CS 2-3		Clinical: Referral to a gynecologist	

O-RADS™ Score	Risk Category	Lexicon Descriptors		Management	
				Premenopausal	Postmenopausal
4	Intermediate Risk [10 - <50%]	Bilocular cyst without solid component(s)	Irregular, any size, any CS	<p>Imaging:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> US specialist (if available) MRI (with O-RADS MRI score)*** <p>Clinical: Referral to a gynecologist with gyne-oncologist consultation or solely by gyne-oncologist</p>	
		Smooth, ≥10 cm, CS <4			
		Multilocular cyst without solid component(s)	Smooth, any size, CS = 4		
		Unilocular cyst with solid component(s)	Irregular, any size, any CS		
		<4 pps or solid component(s) not considered a pp, any size			
		Bi- or multilocular cyst with solid component(s)	Any size, CS = 1-2		
5	High Risk [≥50%]	Solid lesion, non-shadowing	Smooth, any size, CS = 2-3	<p>Imaging: While referral pending, may consider ordering a staging CT (chest, abdomen, pelvis)⁺</p> <p>Clinical: Direct urgent referral to a gyne-oncologist⁺</p>	
		Unilocular cyst, ≥ 4 pps, any size, any CS			
		Bi- or multilocular cyst with solid component(s), any size, CS = 3-4			
		Solid lesion, ± shadowing, smooth, any size, CS = 4			
		Solid lesion, irregular, any size, any CS			
Ascites and/or peritoneal nodules****					

CS = colour score; gyne = gynecologic; MRI = magnetic resonance imaging; N/A = not applicable;

US = ultrasound; pps = papillary projections

* Shorter imaging follow-up may be considered in some scenarios (e.g., clinical factors). If smaller (≥10 – 15% decrease in average linear dimension), consider follow-up US at 12 and 24 months from initial exam, then management per gynecology. For changing morphology, reassess using lexicon descriptors. Clinical management with gynecology as needed.

** There is a paucity of evidence for defining the optimal duration or interval for imaging surveillance. Shorter follow-up may be considered in some scenarios (e.g., clinical factors). If stable, follow-up at 12 and 24 months from initial exam, then as clinically indicated. For changing morphology, reassess using lexicon descriptors.

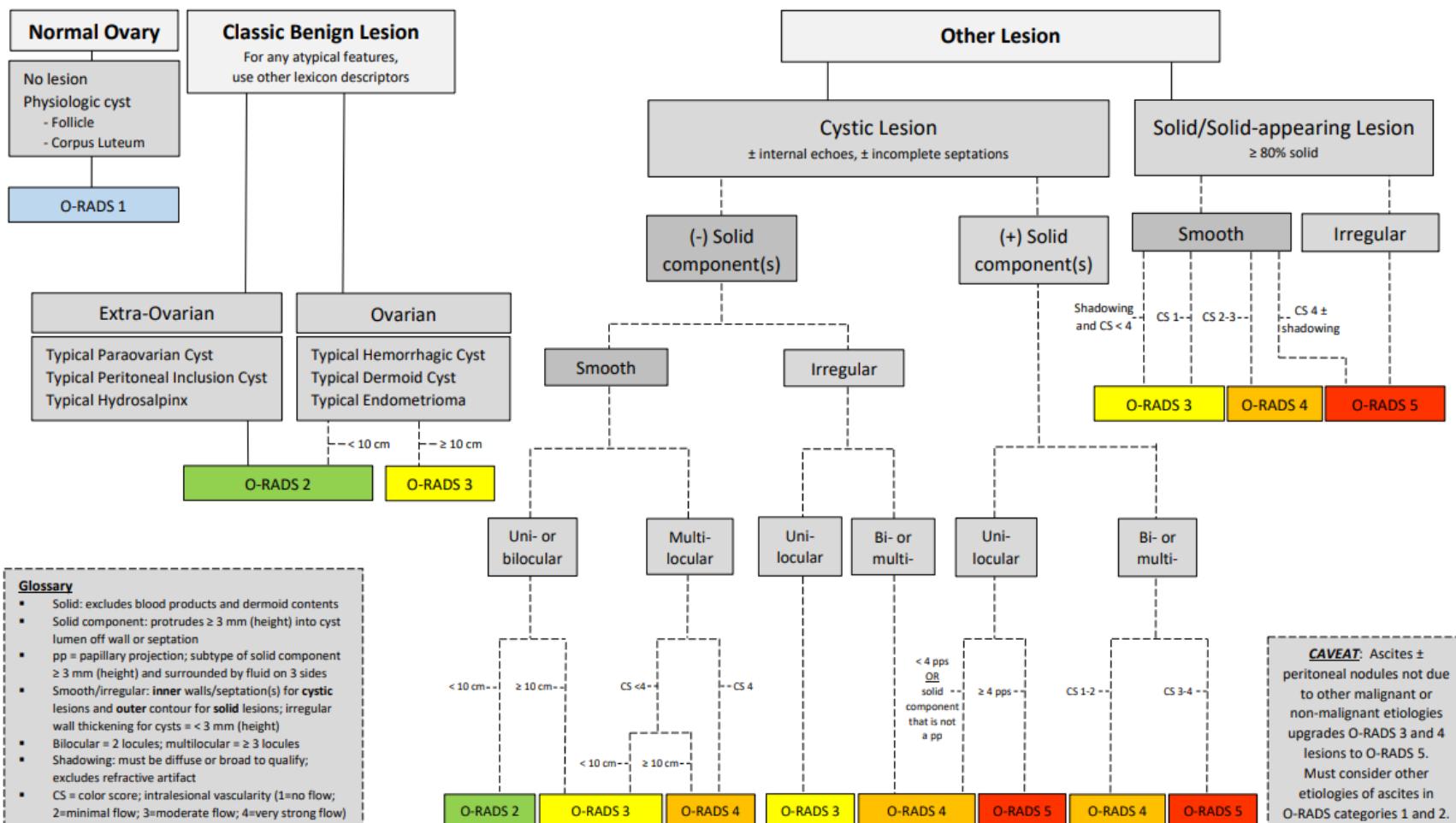
*** MRI with contrast has higher specificity for solid lesions, and cystic lesions with solid component(s).

**** Not due to other malignant or non-malignant etiologies; specifically, must consider other etiologies of ascites in categories 1-2.

+The recommendation differs from O-RADS™ v2022.



Figure 1. O-RADS™ Ultrasound v2022 Assessment Categories Algorithm





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