



**THE LYNNE COHEN FOUNDATION
FOR OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH**

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**Lynne Cohen Foundation for Ovarian Cancer Research
Joins the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation
In Announcing First National Consensus
On Ovarian Cancer Symptoms**

LOS ANGELES, CA, June 25, 2007 – Lynne Cohen Foundation for Ovarian Cancer Research today joins the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation and 17 other national organizations in announcing the first national agreement on the ovarian cancer symptoms. Often referred to as the “silent killer” due to the common belief that there are no warning signs or symptoms, ovarian cancer is the most deadly reproductive cancer.

The Gynecologic Cancer Foundation led this effort to form a consensus in response to ovarian cancer survivors who long held the belief that there were common symptoms of ovarian cancer. Researchers, including Dr. Barbara Goff, a gynecologic oncologist at the University of Washington, have conducted conclusive research that demonstrates that the following symptoms are much more likely to occur in women with ovarian cancer than women in the general population. These symptoms include:

- Bloating
- Pelvic or abdominal pain
- Difficulty eating or feeling full quickly
- Urinary symptoms (urgency or frequency)

Women who have these symptoms almost daily for more than a few weeks should see their doctor, preferably a gynecologist.

“This agreement on common symptoms of ovarian cancer hopefully will lead to earlier diagnosis when a cure is more likely,” said Dr. Goff. “We know that when women are diagnosed in Stage I of the disease, it is 90% curable. Unfortunately, until now there has been no agreement on common symptoms, allowing women to go undiagnosed, despite visits to the doctor, until it was too late.”

It is estimated that more than 22,000 women will be told they have ovarian cancer this year and more than 15,000 will die from this deadly cancer. Ovarian cancer ranks fifth in cancer deaths among women. At present, about 80% of these cancers are not diagnosed in their early stages, leading to a reduced chance of survival.

This consensus will facilitate a coordinated educational effort that will result in both physicians and women considering ovarian cancer when women experience these symptoms.

Women are encouraged to visit the Lynne Cohen Foundation's website (www.lynnecohenfoundation.org) and the Women's Cancer Network (www.wcn.org) to learn more about gynecologic cancers.

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Established in 1998, the Lynne Cohen Foundation is dedicated to the life, character and strength of its namesake, who died of ovarian cancer. Although Lynne Cohen didn't carry a genetic mutation, she was concerned her three daughters might be at risk. Since then, through preventative care programs at major cancer centers throughout the country, the Foundation created by Cohen's daughters focuses on the emerging role of screening and prevention in women's cancers.

www.lynnecohenfoundation.org

The Gynecologic Cancer Foundation (GCF) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to ensure public awareness of gynecologic cancer prevention, early diagnosis and proper treatment. In addition, the Foundation supports research and training related to gynecologic cancers. GCF advances this mission by increasing public and private funds that aid in the development and implementation of programs to meet these goals.