

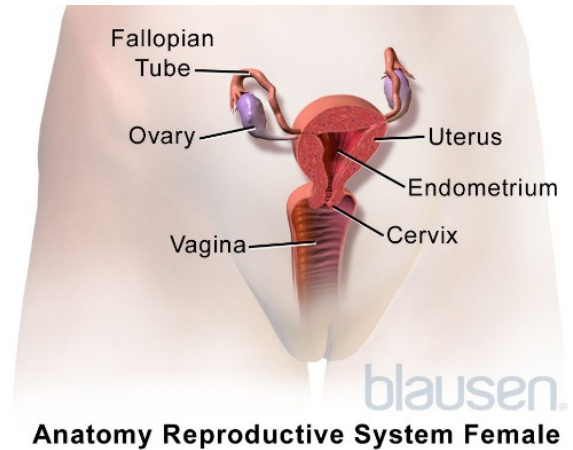
# Bilateral Salpingectomy During a Cesarean Section

## What is a Cesarean Section?

During a cesarean delivery (c-section) the baby is delivered through a surgical incision (cut) made on the abdomen and uterus. Some patients choose to have their fallopian tubes tied (tubal ligation) or removed (bilateral salpingectomy) to permanently prevent future pregnancy at the time of c-section.

## What is a Bilateral Salpingectomy?

Bilateral salpingectomy is a surgery to remove both of your fallopian tubes. The fallopian tubes connect the ovaries and uterus. The eggs from the ovaries travel through the fallopian tube to reach the uterus (womb). Since bilateral salpingectomy only removes the fallopian tubes, the ovaries and uterus are left in place.



## Why have a bilateral salpingectomy during a c-section?

- To lower the chances of fallopian tube and ovarian cancer
- To permanently prevent future pregnancy

## What is Ovarian Cancer?

Ovarian cancer can form in the tissues of an ovary. We recently learned that most ovarian cancers actually begin in the fallopian tube, not the ovary.

The risk of getting ovarian cancer during your lifetime is about 1 in 78. The chance of dying from ovarian cancer is about 1 in 108. About 20,000 people are diagnosed with ovarian cancer every year. Most people diagnosed with ovarian cancer will die from it within 5 years.

## Can you screen for Ovarian Cancer?

There is not a screening test for ovarian cancer. Pap smears do not screen for ovarian cancer.

## C-section with salpingectomy

You can choose to have a bilateral salpingectomy procedure after your baby is delivered by cesarean section (c-section). It is done through the same incision used to deliver the baby. In most cases, bilateral salpingectomy takes a few extra minutes and does not increase recovery time.

Research shows that the risk of complications from bilateral salpingectomy and from bilateral tubal ligation (having your tubes tied) is low.

**Benefits of having a salpingectomy at time of c-section**

- Permanent birth control
- Decreases the risk of ovarian cancer
- More cost-effective than having a second surgery for permanent birth control
- Does not add recovery time

**Risks and things to consider when having a salpingectomy at time of a c-section**

- Additional surgical complexity
- Longer operating time (8 minutes on average)
- Potential small increased risk of bleeding compared to a tubal ligation. One study showed that the risk of bleeding is 3.8% with salpingectomy and 3.1% with tubal ligation.
- Most research has shown that having your fallopian tubes removed will not result in earlier onset of menopause because the ovaries are left in place.
- While highly effective, it does not completely eliminate the risk of ovarian cancer
- Potential regret since this is not a reversible form of birth control.

**Why is this important?**

Ovarian cancer is one of the top 5 causes of cancer death among women. People can choose prevention through bilateral salpingectomy since there is no screening.

This information is not intended as a substitute for professional medical care. Always follow your healthcare professional's instructions.