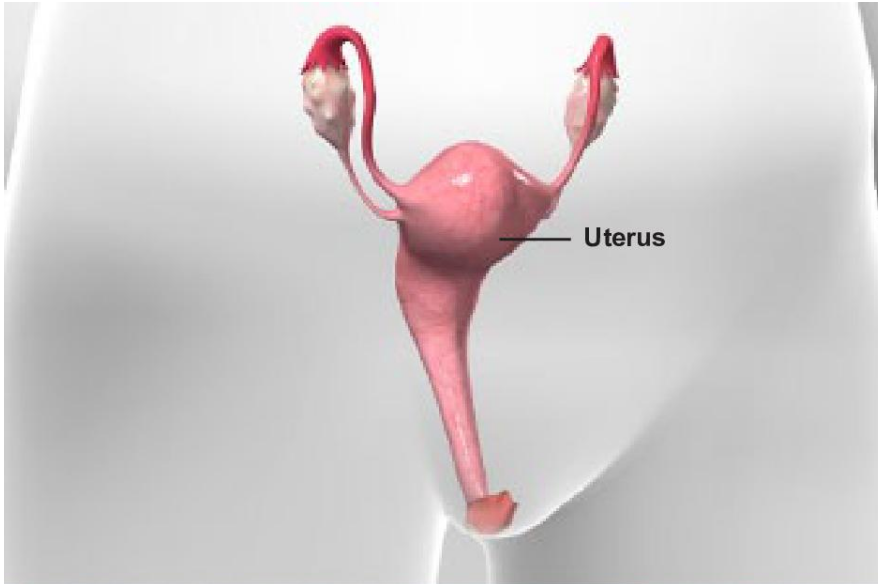




## Endometrial Cancer



### Overview

This cancer begins in a woman's uterus. That's the hollow organ we call the "womb," where a fetus grows during pregnancy. The cancer forms in the endometrial tissue. That's a layer of cells lining the inside of the womb.

### Causes

We don't know what causes this cancer. It happens when endometrial cells mutate and change into abnormal cells. These are cancer cells. They multiply and grow out of control. They form a mass we call a "tumor." The cancer cells can invade other tissues. They can spread to other parts of the body.

### Risk factors

Your risk for this cancer is higher if you began menstruation at a young age. It's higher if you've never been pregnant, or if you are obese. Your risk increases as you get older. You have a higher risk if you have certain changes in the balance of female hormones in your body. It's higher if you are taking hormone therapy for breast cancer. And, you have a higher risk if you have a certain inherited colon cancer syndrome.

### Symptoms

If you have endometrial cancer, you may have vaginal bleeding between periods. You may bleed after menopause. You may have a watery or bloody discharge from your vagina. And, you may have pelvic pain.

### Treatment

How you're treated depends on the stage of your cancer, and if it has spread to other parts of your body. You may need surgery to remove your uterus, fallopian tubes and ovaries. You may benefit from radiation therapy, hormone therapy or chemotherapy. Your doctor will create a care plan that's right for you.