

High CA 125 values without ovaries?

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In september 2001 my mother-in-law (born 1931) had a malignant tumor removed with her ovaries and uterus. The tumor was still closed and no metastases traceable. To be on the sure side a chemotherapy in 6 doses was applied.

Since then she had her blood examined on a regular basis. Everything was allright until this spring when she found a small knot of about half inch size by palpation in her abdomen. She went to her doctor and had her blood examined again and this time, the value of CA 125 was 209 u/ml (5.10.2004). The following examinations showed values of 211 (6.4.2004) and 351 (7.22.2004) and the knot has grown another quarter inch.

The diagnosis of her doctor is: Neo ovarii 1c G3 op 9.01; St.p.PCT, susp. Metas. lymphknot (what does this all mean translated to regular speech?).

Is it really possible to have high values of CA 125 which I learned is an indicator of ovary cancer primarily, if the ovaries and uterus have been removed some years ago?

Is it possible for the knot in her abdomen to be of the benign species although the CA 125 values are high and there is some other reason for the high values?

My mother-in-law now fears it will all start again, with chemotherapy being very painful last time, with loosing the hair ...

Can anybody help her with information about which possibilities she has and if there are other reasons for her high CA 125 values.

Thank you for your help

Heinz