CHARACTERIZATION AND FOLLOW UP OF SIMPLE OVARIAN CYSTS
Categorizing Cysts

Simple

- Thin wall (<3mm)
- No calcification or septate
- Completely anechoic (may not be when there is internal hemorrhage)
- Through transmission
- No solid components

Complex

- Note the complexity - eg. Septations, wall thickening, nodules
- If it is not simple, it is complex
No Follow Up

Pre-Menopausal
- Simple Cysts ≤ 3 cm: no need to mention in report
- Simple Cysts > 3 and ≤ 5 cm: mention in report, include it is almost certainly benign

Post-Menopausal
- Cysts ≤ 1 cm: at the radiologist’s discretion if it is in the report
Annual Follow Up

**Pre-Menopausal**
- Cysts >5 and ≤7 cm: Describe in the report stating they are almost certainly benign;
- Ultrasound follow up in 12 months

**Post-Menopausal**
- Cysts >1 and ≤7 cm: Describe in the report stating they are almost certainly benign
- Ultrasound follow up in 12 months
Special Follow Up

Pre-Menopausal

Cysts >7 cm

MRI or Surgical Evaluation should be considered

Post-Menopausal

Cysts >7 cm

MRI or Surgical Evaluation should be considered
If you want information on which exams are more appropriate than others you can follow the outlines on this website: