Normal Appearance	 Follow-up*	Comments
Normal ovary appearance: Reproductive age Follicles Thin and smooth walls Round or oval Anechoic Size ≤ 3 cm No blood flow	Not needed	Developing follicles and dominant follicle ≤ 3 cm are normal findings
Normal ovary appearance: Reproductive age Corpus luteum • Diffusely thick wall • Peripheral blood flow • Size ≤ 3 cm • +/- internal echoes • +/- crenulated appearance	Not needed	Corpus luteum ≤ 3 cm is a normal finding
Normal ovary appearance: Postmenopausal • Small • Homogenous	Not needed	Normal postmenopausal ovary is atrophic without follicles
Clinically inconsequential: Postmenopausal Simple cyst ≤ 1 cm • Thin wall • Anechoic • No flow	Not needed	Small simple cysts are common; cysts ≤ 1 cm are considered clinically unimportant

Cysts with benign characteristics		Follow-up*	Comments
Simple cysts (includes ovarian and extraovarian cysts) Round or oval Anechoic Smooth, thin walls No solid component or septation Posterior acoustic enhancement No internal flow		Reproductive age: ≤ 5 cm: Not needed > 5 & ≤ 7cm: Yearly Postmenopausal (PM): > 1 & ≤ 7 cm: Yearly** Any age: > 7 cm: Further imaging (e.g., MRI) or surgical evaluation	Simple cysts, regardless of age of patient, are almost certainly benign For cysts ≤ 3 cm in women of reproductive age, it is at discretion of interpreting physician whether to describe them in imaging report
Reticular pattern of internal echoes +/- Solid appearing area with concave margins No internal flow		Reproductive age: ≤ 5 cm: Not needed > 5 cm: 6-12 week follow-up to ensure resolution Early PM: Any size: Follow-up to ensure resolution Late PM: Consider surgical evaluation	Use Doppler to ensure no solid elements For cysts ≤ 3 cm in women of reproductive age, it is at the discretion of interpreting physician whether to describe them in imaging report
Homogeneous low level internal echoes No solid component +/- Tiny echogenic foci in wall		Any age: Initial follow-up 6-12 weeks, then if not surgically removed, follow-up yearly	
Pocal or diffuse hyperechoic component Hyperechoic lines and dots Area of acoustic shadowing No internal flow		Any age: If not surgically removed, follow-up yearly to ensure stability	
Hydrosalpinx Tubular shaped cystic mass +/- Short round projections "beads on a string" +/- Waist sign (i.e. indentations on opposite sides). +/- Seen separate from the ovary		Any age: As clinically indicated	
Peritoneal inclusion cyst Follow the contour of adjacent pelvic organs Ovary at the edge of the mass or suspended within the mass +/- Septations		Any age: As clinically indicated	

Cysts with indeterminate, but probably benign, characteristics		Follow-up*	Comments
Findings suggestive of, but not classic for, hemorrhagic cyst, endometrioma or dermoid		Reproductive age: 6-12 week follow-up to ensure resolution. If the lesion is unchanged, then hemorrhagic cyst is unlikely, and continued follow-up with either ultrasound or MRI should then be considered. If these studies do not confirm an endometrioma or dermoid, then surgical evaluation should be considered. Postmenopausal: Consider surgical evaluation	
Thin-walled cyst with single thin septation or focal calcification in the wall of a cyst		Follow-up based on size and menopausal status, same as simple cyst described above	
Multiple thin septations (< 3 mm)		Consider surgical evaluation	Multiple septations suggest a neoplasm, but if thin, the neoplasm is likely benign
Nodule (non-hyperechoic) without flow		Consider surgical evaluation or MRI	Solid nodule suggests neoplasm, but if no flow (and not echogenic as would be seen in a dermoid) this is likely a benign lesion such as a cystadenofibroma
Cysts with characteristics worrisome for malignancy		Follow-up*	Comments
Thick (> 3 mm) irregular septations		Any age: Consider surgical evaluation	
Nodule with blood flow		Any age: Consider surgical evaluation	