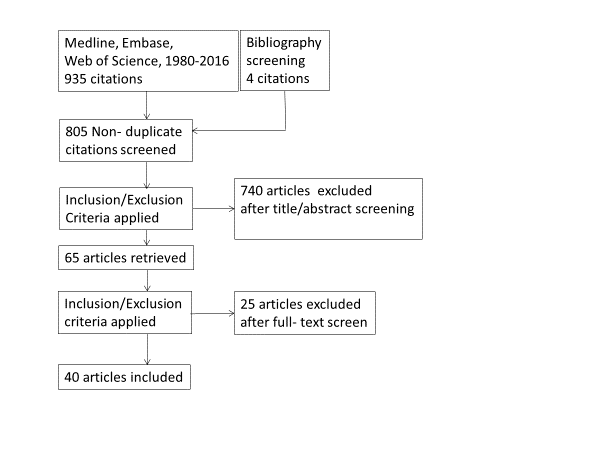
**Systematic literature search**

On September 9th 2016, the databases MEDLINE, EMBASE, and Web of Science were searched for English language articles published in the period of 1980-2016. The initial search strategy was developed in collaboration with a research librarian at Aarhus University, Denmark. Using the Pubmed research tool, the keyword: “ovarian neoplasms” was by means of the Boolean logical “AND”, combined with the following keywords: “Chlamydia infections” (MeSH), “Neisseria gonorrhoeae” (MeSH), “Mycoplasma genitalium” (MeSH), “Papillomaviridae” (MeSH), “pelvic inflammatory disease” (MeSH). Initially, no constraints regarding article types were employed. Correspondent searches were performed in EMBASE and Web of Science. A free- text search was also performed to identify non-indexed articles. All retrieved articles were imported into Refworks (RefWorks-COS, ProQuest, UK http://www.refworks.com/). Exact and close matching duplicates were identified by a Refworks algorithm and were removed after individual assessment by the reviewers. Bibliographies were systematically studied to identify additional papers. Original studies, examining the association between infectious agents and ovarian cancer by use of tissue-based or serologic methods were included. Epidemiological studies examining the association between pelvic inflammatory disease and ovarian cancer were also included. Case-reports and reviews were excluded.

The literature search identified 931 articles. Four additional articles were identified by systematically studying bibliographies[1-4]. After removal of 130 duplicates, 805 studies remained for further analysis. Contents were outside the scope of the present review in 740 articles that were excluded. The remaining 65 articles were subjected to full-text screening. Fourteen, non- original, articles were excluded, including nine reviews, two case-reports and three commentary articles. Six additional articles were outside the scope of the review and were excluded. One article was excluded since the same data was included in two studies[5]. We suspected that this was also the case for two other studies[6,7]. Since we were unable to clarify this we decided to include the study that was published first[6]. Three additional articles were excluded: one due to lack of differentiation between endometrial and ovarian cancer[8], one that only included patients with low malignant potential tumors[9] and finally one was excluded since it was later retracted by the authors due to a possible contamination of the samples[10]. The remaining 40 articles met the inclusion criteria for this review[1-4,6,11-45] (see figure 1).

Figure S1. Database search  


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