Taller women face greater cancer risk - study

7:12 PM Wednesday Apr 4, 2012

Tall women are more likely to develop ovarian cancer than their shorter friends, UK research suggests.

Oxford University scientists reviewed 47 studies involving more than 100,000 women - many of them with ovarian cancer - and found a link with height.

They also found the disease is more common in overweight women.

Every two inches in height increased the odds of developing the disease by 7 per cent.

The researchers said tall women could simply have more cells that can become cancerous.

Growth hormones may also play a role, the journal PLoS medicine reports.

Dr Paul Pharoah, a Cambridge University cancer expert, said while the analysis was valid, the impact on individual women would be small.

- DAILY MAIL