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research that says that regular blood tests could significantly improve the detection of tumors in women at

high risk of ovarian cancer there is no screening programme for any are very cancer more than 4000 women a year in the uk die from the disease if ovarian cancer runs in the family women are currently advised to have their ovaries and fallopian tubes removed in their mid thirties let's get more on that dr hanna rosin or is a consultant gynaecologist and lead author of the study from university college london what to the screenings involved because currently there are none correctly for the moment the only option for women to have the tubes and ovaries removed we're not suggesting that is not something they should still be doing but what we now have is a test which appears to detect tumours at an early stage and that involves 3 blood tests a year and an ultrasound scan months here an is that like it with that essentially be the same as a smear test for example that's that you know women at a certain age have to do and every 3 years and every two years and have and any early so in an ideal world we would like to see all women at increased risk of ovarian cancer mean you have got more than one in 10 lifetime risk of developing the disease having access to this test if they want to while they're waiting to decide if they want to have the surgery to remove the tubes the a freeze why some women are more likely to get that disease and others as it essentially hereditary yes essentially hereditary mean though the biggest story of course in recent years has been angelina jolie with her black one gene mutation a that confers the highest risk of ovarian cancer is up to one in two lifetime risk of developing the disease if you got that mutation but they're other mutations still increase the risk to well above one in 10 and that's the level at which we currently recommend that women have achieved and ovaries removed to prevent them getting cancer and candour screening then decrease the number of women who have to get their ovaries and into no we don't we don't use it for that purpose built cos they can't prevent them getting cancer the key thing to understand here is that anyway preventing cancer is to have the reason tubes removed but what the test might allow women to do is feel that they're having a little bit more time to stop and think about when they

have their surgery to know that someone is looking after the are unlucky enough to develop cancer while said being screened it is much more likely to be picked up at an earlier stage we don't know for certain that means again to live longer with us some indications in the tryless suggest that we expect them to live longer than if they had not had any screening an earlier screening would mean a different sort of treatment it certainly less aggressive surgery they would probably still need to have chemotherapy but we know that outcomes better when women have all of a tumour removed the 1st operation and then go on to have chemotherapy and in 95 % of the cases of the woman who's who on the study all their tumour was removed without surgery so that's much better new expect if they did not have screening and just waited til they got symptoms and in terms of practicality it does sound expensive it can be available for 4 for all women the screen for for all women that would that would depend on results of a much bigger trial what's going on looking at whether screening is effective in

the general population that would be available in 2019 but in terms of cost an ultrasound scan and 3 blood test here is potentially affordable dr animals of all thank you so much for joining us dr lars hold their consultant oncologist and lead author of the study from the university college london thank you