

Endometriosis

Endometriosis is defined as endometrial cells (that's the lining of the womb you shed each month) being somewhere other than as part of the endometrium. It can affect up to 10% of the population. Every women with endometriosis experiences it in different ways from

Symptoms of endometriosis

- Painful periods
- Heavy periods
- Irregular periods
- Infertility
- Pain during intercourse
- Asymptomatic

The symptoms of endometriosis also cross over with other gynaecological conditions making the diagnosis difficult. Currently the best way to confirm endometriosis is by an operation called a laparoscopy. (Keyhole surgery to examine the abdomen.)

While surgery is the gold standard for diagnosis the mainstay of endometriosis management is medical (using medications.) Different types of medications are used for the treatment of endometriosis and it depends on the individual to which is the most appropriate at the time.

Medical management options

- Simple analgesia (Paracetamol/ Non Steroidal Anti inflammatories)
- Prostaglandin medications
- Oral Contraceptive pill
- Depoprovera (contraceptive injection)
- Mirena
- GnRH agonist (Zoladex)
- Visanne (new medication released in 2015)

As each women is different and her needs are different, if you feel that you may have endometriosis please call the rooms for an appointment on

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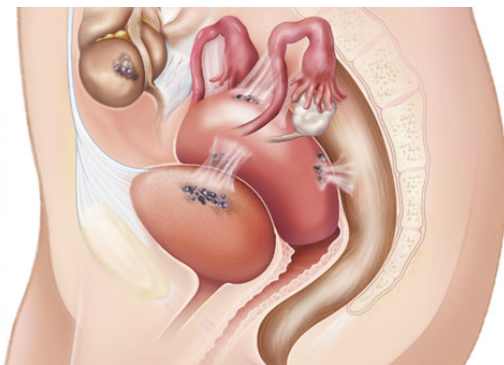


Image of various deposits of endometriosis

<http://www.webmd.com/women/endometriosis/ss/slideshow-endometriosis-overview>

Dr Tanya Davenport 2015