

THE IMPACT OF LATE DIAGNOSIS OF ENDOMETRIOSIS ON INFERTILITY IN YOUNG WOMEN

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Relevance

Endometriosis is a chronic gynecological disease characterized by the growth of tissue similar to the lining of the uterus outside the uterine cavity. It is widespread among women of reproductive age, yet it remains one of the most frequently underdiagnosed pathologies. The primary symptom of the disease—severe and prolonged menstrual pain—is often confused with common dysmenorrhea, resulting in a delay of several years before an accurate diagnosis is made.

Aim of the study

To analyze the causes of late detection of endometriosis, its association with infertility, and the level of awareness regarding this disease among young women, based on scientific literature.

Materials and methods

Local and foreign scientific publications, as well as gynecological guidelines on the topic, were analyzed. Clinical manifestations of endometriosis, diagnostic methods (ultrasound, laparoscopy), and its impact on reproductive function were comparatively evaluated.

Results

The analysis revealed that in a significant proportion of women with endometriosis, an accurate diagnosis is established years after the onset of symptoms. The primary reason for this is the confusion of disease symptoms with "ordinary painful periods" and delayed presentation to a physician. Delayed diagnosis can lead to the development of pelvic adhesions involving the ovaries and fallopian tubes, thereby increasing the risk of infertility.

Conclusion

For the early detection of endometriosis, special attention must be paid to menstrual pain that differs from common dysmenorrhea—specifically pain that does not respond to treatment or worsens over time. Encouraging young women to consult a gynecologist promptly when experiencing such symptoms, along with raising awareness among clinical practitioners, serves as a crucial factor in preventing infertility.

Keywords: endometriosis, dysmenorrhea, infertility, laparoscopy, gynecological diagnosis