

## Adenomyosis in teenage patients, a first step to endometriosis?

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Etiology and pathophysiology of adenomyosis and endometriosis and their interrelationship are not fully understood. The pathophysiology of adenomyosis is largely unknown, but it has been associated with various causes of uterine trauma that may break the barrier between the endometrium and myometrium, such as a caesarean section, surgical pregnancy termination, or pregnancy. Yet, recent studies have reported adenomyosis in young patients with no history of uterine trauma, and history of invalidating primary dysmenorrhea and menorrhagia. In this setting, adenomyosis is considered to be the consequence of uterine auto-trauma. The aim of this MRI case-based work was to illustrate this concept which could be the first step to endometriosis.

Based on our experience of more than 100 teenagers attending our center for endometriosis, we identified uterine adenomyosis on patients with no history of uterine trauma presenting with dysmenorrhea and menorrhagia. Adenomyosis was often associated with endometriosis lesions. Imaging features are described.

This study confirms the possible presence of adenomyosis in teenagers suffering from invalidating primary dysmenorrhea and menorrhagia and should be actively searched with MRI. We propose the term "intra-uterine endometriosis" to describe these lesions.

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