

Trends in the incidence of subfertility-inducing gynecologic diseases (Leiomyoma, Adenomyosis, and Endometriosis) in Korean Women: A National Population-based Study

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Background: Leiomyoma, adenomyosis, and endometriosis are major gynecological diseases associated with subfertility/infertility and, possibly, adverse pregnancy outcomes. Despite the high prevalence of gynecologic diseases among Korean women of reproductive age, incidence rate, risk factors or markers for developing these conditions remain largely unknown. Many of the published studies are based on small selected samples. The purpose of this study was to investigate the trend of the incidence of three major gynecologic disease using administrative data.

Methods: Women in their reproductive age between 15 and 54 were selected from the Korean National Health Insurance Service (KNHIS) sample cohort dataset which were collected during 2002-2013. Patients with leiomyoma, adenomyosis, and endometriosis were identified by ICD-10 and intervention codes for the Korean health insurance. Patients were categorized by 5-year age group and the incidences per 100,000 person-years of the three diseases were calculated.

Results: A total of 50,884 women aged 15-54 were selected from the KNHIS cohort database, which included approximately 1 million individuals. During the period 2002-2013, 42,968 new cases of the three gynecologic diseases (35,956 of leiomyoma, 9,257 of adenomyosis, and 5,671 of endometriosis) were identified. The cumulative incidence rate for all age group was 9.4%. The cumulative incidence of leiomyoma, adenomyosis and endometriosis was highest in the age group 40-44 at 23.4%. The age-specific incidences of adenomyosis and endometriosis were highest in the age group 35-39 at 5.6% and 2.2% respectively, while leiomyoma was highest in the age group 40-44 at 21.2%.

Conclusion: This study showed a significant trend towards an increase in diagnosis for leiomyoma, adenomyosis and endometriosis in Korean women with time. More research is necessary to determine the risk factors associated with the onset and growth of gynecologic diseases to provide new approaches to non-surgical treatments.

Keywords : Subfertility, Leiomyoma, Adenomyosis, Endometriosis

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