

EDITORIAL

What So Special with Endometriosis Characteristics yet We Don't Know About?

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Nowadays, managing endometriosis in a woman with reproductive age still poses many problems especially in the mean of recurrence and its impact on infertility and morbidity consequence.¹⁻⁵ Although many strategies have already done in curing this disease, but there is no single therapeutic mean which is really effective in curing the disease without scarifying reproductive function.^{6,7}

Endometriosis is defined as the growth of endometrium outside uterine cavity, or ectopic endometrium. Endometriosis is also considered as benign neoplasm but poses malignant characteristics. It grows and often recurs immediately as another malignant neoplasm, it spreads all over human body, that could be found in a far site of the human body, e.g. eye, lung and even on skin surface. It could be found in surgery as ovarian cyst or already infiltrated to another adjacent tissues and far tissues.^{2,5,7}

Many doctors dealing with this disease do not realize the most important factor in endometriosis. It produces oxidative stress that differs it from another benign neoplasm in gynecology. Its oxidative stress is caused by the production of iron due to the lyse of red blood cells, in the endometriosis lesion following regular period. This iron is one of the strongest oxidative agents that could lead to a long chain of oxidative stress. The oxidative stress in the endometriosis lesion is also considered as one major factor that worsen local inflammation and stimulates its ectopic endometrial cells to behave aggressively even could transform into malignant cells. Many studies have already done regarding this "important" issue but still no promising result was get. Certainly there are so many genetic changes also found in endometriosis lesion, that don't help either.^{4,8,9}

Medically fighting endometriosis often difficult, many things still we don't know about. Many efforts must be done to answer the big question behind its mystery, as every effort would be better then doing nothing.

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