

## ENDOMETRIOSIS AND INFERTILITY – A PEEP AT THE AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

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### Abstract

Endometriosis is defined as the presence of endometrial surface epithelium and/or the presence of endometrial glands and stroma outside the lining of the uterine cavity. It is a long term condition causing pelvic pain, painful periods, dyspareunia, period-related gastrointestinal and urinary symptoms, infertility and decreased quality of life.

It is one of the commonest gynecological disorders after fibroids and it has been estimated that 10% - 15% of women in the reproductive age group (usually 15-49 years old) are affected in the UK. It is the most common cause of pelvic pain and occurs in 30–40% of women with infertility. Although its exact cause is unknown, it is hormone mediated and is associated with menstruation. The reproductive organs most usually afflicted include ovaries, rectovaginal pouch of Douglas, uterosacral ligaments, uterus, fallopian tubes, bladder, ureters, bowel, skin-umbilicus, surgical scar, lungs, brain, thigh and buttocks.

### Biography

Dr. Ngozi Stellamaris Okonkwo is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Nuclear medicine and Allied Sciences, India. She is in the third year of her Ph.D. and is a holder of DST-INSPIRE fellowship. She has qualified UGC NET exam twice. The Dr. Ngozi Stellamaris Okonkwo is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Nuclear medicine and

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