

# EXTRAGENITAL ENDOMETRIOSIS: A HIDDEN ENTITY



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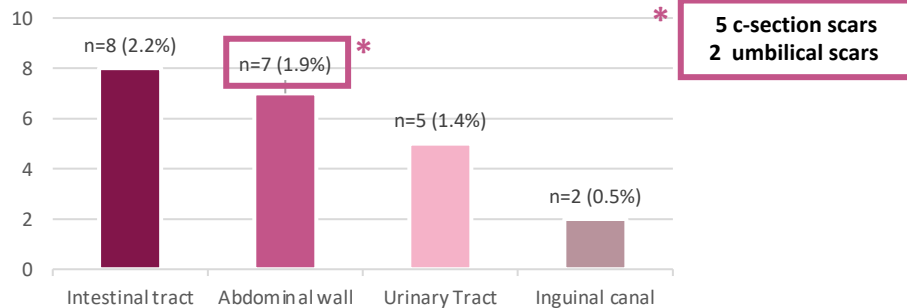
## INTRODUCTION

Extragenital endometriosis is a **rare** entity that presents **serious** health challenges and can damage **nearly every organ** of the female body. The **aim** of this study was to describe cases of **extragenital endometriosis**, namely clinical presentation and therapeutic approach.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

A **retrospective** study was carried out from January 2012 to December 2020 in a Gynecology Service at a Tertiary Hospital, that included patients with **histologic proven endometriosis** (n=367). Statistical analysis was performed using SPSS v27.0, with a significance level of p<0.05.

Extragenital endometriosis was found in **6.0%** (n=22).



First referral was in **45.5%** (n=10) to other specialties other than gynecology. The **median age** of patients with extragenital endometriosis was **36** years (26-70), compared to **38** years (19-85) for those with genital endometriosis (p=ns).

<b>Classic endometriosis symptoms</b>	75% (n=6)	85.7% (n=6)	80% (n=4)	50% (n=1)
<b>Abnormal gynecologic physical exam</b>	36% (n=3)	-	60% (n=3)	50% (n=1)
<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Implant excision</b>	-	100% (n=7)	60% (n=3)
	<b>Adjuvant medical treatment</b>	87.5% (n=7)	57.1% (n=4)	80% (n=4)
	<b>Others</b>	Segmental bowel resection (100%)	-	TURBT 40% (n=2)

## DISCUSSION/ CONCLUSIONS

Evidence-based approach to diagnosis and treatment remains **controversial** given its low prevalence and limited quality of studies. For most cases, surgical excision was performed, and it is the **gold standard** approach whenever possible. As extragenital endometriosis occurs in various organs and presents with non-gynecological symptoms, **multidisciplinary collaboration** is essential for optimal management. Awareness of the various locations for endometriosis could heighten clinical suspicion so that delay in diagnosis can be avoided and proper treatment provided.

TURBT: transurethral resection of bladder tumor

**Keywords:** Abdominal endometriosis, Endometriosis, Extragenital, Intestinal endometriosis, Vesical endometriosis