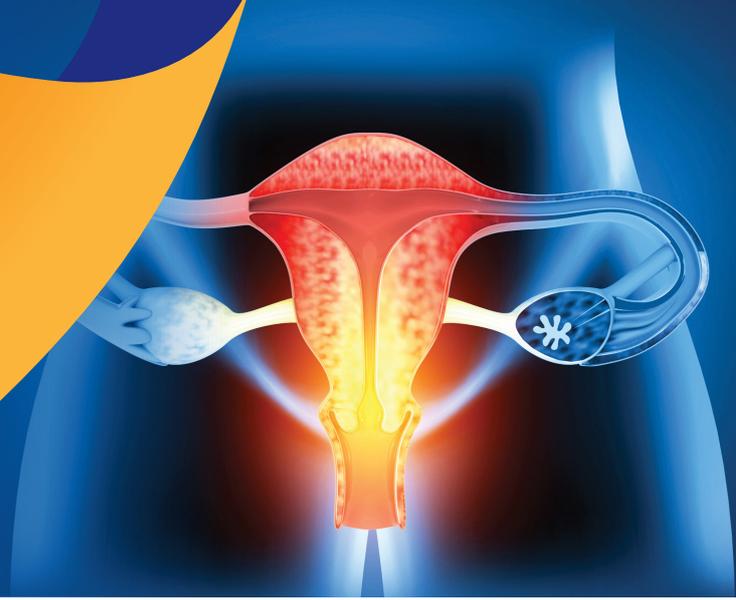


Updated RANZCOG Guidelines: Recommend Imaging Pathways for Early Diagnosis of Endometriosis



The latest RANZCOG clinical practice guidelines shift away from immediate surgical diagnosis and now emphasise non-invasive imaging as the first step in evaluating suspected endometriosis.¹

According to the latest guidelines high-quality imaging allows earlier and more accurate assessment of disease extent enabling:

- Earlier diagnosis and fewer unnecessary surgeries.
- Better treatment planning, including identifying deep infiltrating disease affecting bowel, bladder or ureter.
- Improved care coordination, supporting multidisciplinary management.
- Targeted referrals based on detailed mapping from ultrasound or MRI.

Recommended Imaging options:

For first-line investigation: Transvaginal Pelvic Ultrasound (TVUS)

TVUS is highly specific for detecting:

- Ovarian endometriomas
- Deep infiltrating endometriosis (including rectosigmoid and bladder involvement)
- Adhesions and reduced organ mobility

Second-line investigation or when deep disease is suspected: Pelvic MRI

MRI provides detailed cross-sectional mapping, especially useful when:

- TVUS is inconclusive or unsuitable
- Deep disease is suspected on clinical exam or ultrasound
- Complex surgical planning is required

The guidelines highlights the treatment of adolescents.

In treating suspected Endometriosis in Adolescents:

- A normal scan doesn't rule out endometriosis in adolescents.
- Specialist imaging interpretation is essential in this age group.
- If TVUS isn't suitable, use transabdominal ultrasound.
- MRI may be used when deeper disease is suspected or TVUS is inappropriate.



1 in 7
women are
diagnosed with
endometriosis¹



It takes
6-8 years
from detecting
symptoms to
diagnosis²



Endometriosis
is the third largest
contributor to non-fatal
disease burden in women's
reproductive health³

1. Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. (2025). Australian Living Evidence Guideline: Endometriosis. <https://ranzcof.edu.au/womens-health/endometriosis/> 2. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/chronic-disease/endometriosis-in-australia-2023/contents/endometriosis> 3. <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/chronic-disease/endometriosis/contents/impact-endometriosis>



Read more about the changed guidelines and imaging pathway options for Endometriosis.

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