



## Endometriosis: Natural History, Diagnosis, and Outcome



The University of Utah Obstetric and Gynecologic Network is proud to participate in a research study funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)



We are conducting a study to learn more about environmental exposure to chemicals and how lifestyle factors may affect women's reproductive health. In particular, we will focus on how hormonally active chemicals and lifestyle affect the risk of developing endometriosis. Endometriosis is a condition in which endometrial tissue is found outside of the uterus and can be associated with pelvic pain, menstrual changes, and infertility. About 1 in 10 women aged 18-44 years are estimated to have endometriosis and an additional 10% of women may have asymptomatic or undiagnosed endometriosis. To date, the cause of endometriosis is unknown but evidence suggests that environmental exposures maybe associated with its origin, such as infertility and other female medical problems.

We are interested in talking to women ages 18-44 years (not pregnant or breastfeeding) who are scheduled for pelvic surgery to see if they are interested in participating in this study. To answer questions about the effect of the environment and lifestyle on women's reproductive and gynecologic health, the ENDO study will compare women who are having laparoscopy or laparotomy (pelvic surgery) with women who are not undergoing surgery or experiencing gynecologic problems. The study is conducted in Utah and California.

If you agree to allow your name and phone number to be provided to us from your doctor, someone from our research team will call you in the next 1-2 business days for a short phone interview. During this phone call, we will be asking you about your past medical history to find out whether or not you qualify to participate. If you are qualified, you will be scheduled for an evaluation prior to your surgery. This visit will take approximately one hour of your time and will include the following procedures.

- In-person interview about your health and lifestyle
- Blood and urine samples will be taken
- Physical measurements (weight, height, body mass, etc.)
- Study-related MRI performed at the University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics (not all women participating in this study will have this procedure)

A detailed Information and Consent Document that describes these procedures in more detail is attached for you to take home and review.

**\*\* Compensation will be provided for your time and inconvenience. \*\***

**Thank you for your interest in participating in this study. All information will be kept confidential.**

If you have any questions or you do not hear from us, please contact Denise Lamb, RN, or one of our research nurses for this study at the University of Utah by phone at (801) 585-2585. or by email at [endo.study@hsc.utah.edu](mailto:endo.study@hsc.utah.edu).