

Endometriosis

» Prof. Dr. Almuth Einspanier

Endometriosis is not only a painful chronic disease, but also one of the common causes of infertility, affecting more than 10 % of premenopausal women. This chronic disease, where endometrial glands and stroma are found outside the uterus, is an estrogen-dependent and occurs only in humans as well as primates. The aetiology and pathogenesis, however, remains still uncertain. The research group's studies focus on the examination of markers for the diagnosis of endometriosis and of the pathophysiology of this disease.

Primates with different stages of endometriosis are examined, which were diagnosed by the non-invasive method Colour Doppler analysis and due to their clinical signs. The measured blood levels from these primates showed an imbalance in their endocrine parameters with an increase of cytokines. These examinations will be extended to improve

further markers. The group established different behavioural test systems to define the health status and the stage of endometriosis of these animals. These behavioural tests included testing of animal mobility and analysis of learning as well as recognition. Further studies will focus on aetiology and behavioural studies to obtain more knowledge of the disease endometriosis and its impact on life style.

Keywords

- Endometriosis
- Behavioural tests
- Reproduction
- Primates



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