



endometriosis uk

NEWS RELEASE

CALL FOR CLINICAL GUIDELINES ON ENDOMETRIOSIS AS TWO MILLION WOMEN CONTINUE TO SUFFER

A national charity that campaigns for two million British women suffering from the crippling gynaecological condition endometriosis is today (Wednesday March 7) calling on MPs to support the introduction of guidelines for the diagnosis and management of the disease.

As part of its national awareness week initiatives, Endometriosis UK will stage a House of Commons briefing when Dr Stephen Kennedy – a leading researcher in the field of endometriosis – will highlight to MPs the significant impact the illness has on both quality of life and in the untold cost to the state.

The charity, which recently submitted an application to the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) asking it to consider national guidelines, will now call on MPs to support an early day motion urging NICE to take that request forward.

Dr Kennedy will be joined at the House by a woman with endometriosis who will recount her experience of diagnosis, treatment and management of a condition for which there is no cure.

Latest figures show the number of education and work days lost to endometriosis is estimated to be as much as £3 billion annually in the UK and €30 billion across the European Union.

And with diagnostic delays of anything up to 11 years, considerable variations in treatment and care across the UK as well as a lack of follow-up, the adverse impact on quality of life and the major socio-economic burden are of growing concern to both patients and those responsible for treating the disease.

Rob Music, chief executive of Endometriosis UK, says: "While some progress has been made, the situation for many women suffering from this terrible illness is woefully lacking. We must encourage a new environment in which there is better funding, improved levels of information and a greater understanding among sufferers, their families and the business and education communities of the enormous impact endometriosis can have on a woman's quality of life."

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Press enquiries to David Leck or Vicky Huntley at David Leck Associates on 01322 528580/07811 534346.

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Endometriosis

- Most patients – once diagnosed with endometriosis – are treated through medication and in some cases surgery. For many, a range of alternative and complementary therapies have also delivered some degree of success in alleviating symptoms and pain.
- Endometriosis UK has a dedicated helpline on 0808 808 2227 and local groups providing vital support and information
- For further information go to www.endometriosis-uk.org