

When Your Daughter's Whining may REALLY be a Medical Problem

Janice L. Bacon, MD

Abstract: Heavy menstrual bleeding and dysmenorrhea are two of the most common reasons adolescent women seek gynecologic care. Young women however are often unable to identify if their menstrual bleeding is "normal" or excess. This presentation will provide an overview of assessing abnormal menses in young women and update attendees on evaluating these patients for bleeding disorders or other serious medical conditions which may cause abnormal bleeding. Also, primary dysmenorrhea affects a majority of adolescent women, but it usually is mild and managed with nonprescription medications. Atypical dysmenorrhea may be associated with endometriosis. A review of the success of medical and surgical therapies in young women will be outlined.

Key words: heavy menses, menorrhagia, dysmenorrhea, endometriosis