



APGO Educational Series on Women's Health Issues

Management of Patients with Vaginitis

Executive Summary:

This interactive case-based teaching module is for use by obstetrician-gynecologist educators in instructing medical students and residents to help them understand common causes, diagnostic procedures, and management issues that may arise in caring for women with vaginitis. Based on the latest research evidence, clinical guidelines, and expert opinion, it will also serve as a valuable resource for practicing physicians and other healthcare professionals, including nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

Vaginitis is one of the most common reasons for visits to obstetrician/gynecologists, and differential diagnosis is challenging due to overlapping risk factors and symptoms. Causes can be infectious or noninfectious. Successful treatment rests on accurate diagnosis, but persistent and recurrent vaginitis occurs frequently.

This teaching module summarizes current standards of care and knowledge to diagnose and treat vaginitis to improve physician competence in providing optimal care for patients

Intended Audience: Obstetrician-gynecologist educators

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this educational activity, participants should be able to:

1. Recognize the signs and symptoms of vaginitis
2. Differentiate between common causes of vaginitis
3. Describe appropriate diagnostic procedures for vaginitis
4. Recognize the normal attributes of the vaginal microbiome
5. Apply current ACOG and CDC guidelines for treatment of vaginitis, including recurrent vaginitis, in women of all ages

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