Introduction to the Special Edition on endometriosis

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This Special Edition is dedicated to the multi-modality imaging of Endometriosis and the surgical and medical management as it pertains to the Radiologist. Endometriosis may impact a woman from menarche onwards, resulting in chronic pain, involving many organs and nerves, potentially impacting fertility and has a risk of malignant degeneration. The disease presentation clinically and radiologically can be challenging and the standardization of imaging protocols, report templates and interdisciplinary conferences, will aid in refining disease detection and management. All of these topics and others will be addressed in this edition. Much about this disease remains to be discovered; however, research studies broaching many of these topics are impacting our evolving practice management.

I would like to thank the Society of Abdominal Radiology (SAR) for the opportunity to create this platform for knowledge sharing. Through the tireless efforts of the SAR Disease Focused Panel (DFP) on Endometriosis this edition has

been made possible. I'd like to thank the editor-in-chief, Dr. C. Daniel Johnson, the former associate editor of gynecological imaging, Dr. Christine (Cooky) Menias, and my fellow DFP members for inviting me to serve as guest editor. In particular, I'd like to highlight the Endometriosis DFP consensus guidelines on MRI Lexicon and technique. Many contributors of research papers, educational articles and case reports present a sense of the breadth and complexity of this disease which we must familiarize ourselves with as imagers. I hope this edition will function as a reference to build or grow an endometriosis imaging service and will prompt further research and discovery.

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