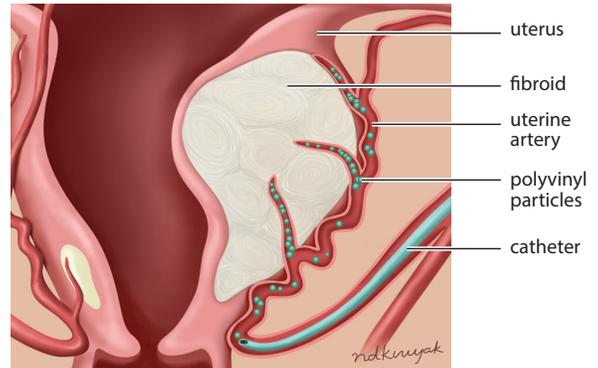


## Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE)

**Uterine fibroid embolization (UFE)**, also known as **uterine artery embolization**, is a procedure that blocks the blood flow to a uterine fibroid tumor(s), therefore, causing the tumor to shrink and disappear. Most women with symptomatic fibroids are candidates for the procedure and should schedule a consult with an interventional radiologist to determine if it is a treatment option for them.

On average, 85-90 percent of women who have had UFE experience significant or total relief from heavy bleeding, pain and/or bulk-related symptoms such as constipation, urinary frequency and pelvic pressure. The procedure is effective for multiple fibroids as well as large fibroids. Recurrence of treated fibroids is very rare according to studied data.

During the procedure, you will be conscious yet sedated and unable to feel pain. The interventional radiologist makes a tiny nick in the skin of the groin and inserts a catheter into the femoral artery. Using imaging, the physician guides the catheter through the artery and releases tiny particles, the size of grains of sand, into the uterine arteries that supply blood to the fibroid tumor(s). Due to the blockage of blood flow to the uterine fibroid(s), the fibroids shrink.



An overnight stay in the hospital is usually required after the procedure. Medications are typically prescribed to treat post-procedure cramping and pain. Many patients resume light activity in a few days, and most patients are able to return to normal activities within 7 to 10 days.

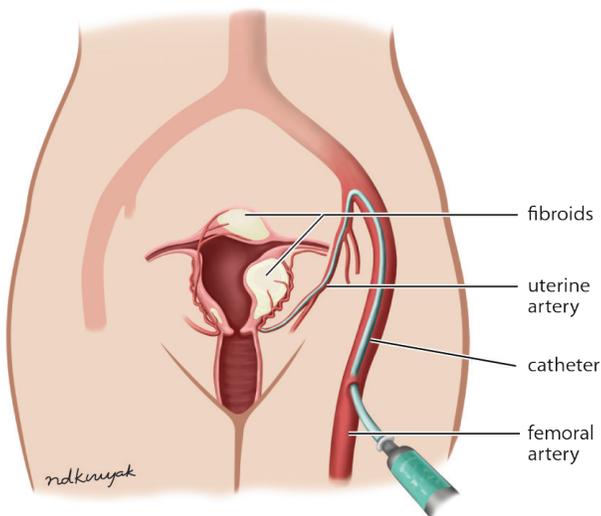
UFE has been performed successfully for over 20 years to treat heavy bleeding after childbirth. The particles used are FDA approved and have been administered in thousands of patients without causing long-term complications. There are, however, some risks associated with the procedure: a small number of patients have experienced infection. There is also a less than one percent (1%) chance of injury to the uterus, potentially leading to a hysterectomy. Less than two percent (2%) of patients have entered menopause; this occurs more often with patients who are in their mid-forties or older.

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Our Fibroid Multidisciplinary Team, including Drs. David Lee (Interventional Radiologist) and Bala Bhagavath (Reproductive Endocrinologist), are happy to consult with you regarding uterine fibroid treatments options.

**Schedule your appointment: 585-784-2985**

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