

WHAT ARE THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH UFE?

Overall, UFE is a safe procedure for treating symptomatic fibroids. Infrequent complications have been reported following UFE. You should talk with your doctor about the risks associated with this procedure. Please contact 1 877 ASK 4UFE and request a Patient Education Kit for more detailed information regarding all possible risks and complications. Or you can go online at www.ASK4UFE.com.

DOES MY HEALTH INSURANCE COVER UFE?

Most insurance companies cover UFE as a treatment for symptomatic fibroids. Discuss insurance coverage with your doctor before the procedure.

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UFE?

If you would like additional information about uterine fibroids and UFE, please visit us online at www.ASK4UFE.com or call 1-877-ASK-4UFE and request a complete Patient Education Kit

Washington Hospital Center Interventional Radiology



Jay D. Varma, MD



Keith M. Horton, MD

Lisa Brown, RN, Nurse Coordinator
Donna Norris, CRNP
202-877-8440

www.whcir.vascularomain.com



1050 Hingham Street
Rockland, MA 02370
phone: 1-877-ASK-4UFE (275-4833)
email: info@ask4ufe.com
website: www.ask4ufe.com

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TREATING SYMPTOMATIC UTERINE FIBROIDS WITH UTERINE FIBROID EMBOLIZATION





WHAT ARE UTERINE FIBROIDS?

Fibroids are benign, non-cancerous growths — within or on the muscular walls of the uterus or womb. Some can be as small as a pea, while others can be as large as a cantaloupe. The uterus may have more than one fibroid in any area of the uterus. As many as 20 to 40 percent of women over the age of 35 have fibroids. African-American women tend to have a higher incidence of fibroids.

HOW DO I KNOW IF I'M A UFE CANDIDATE?

If you need treatment for fibroid-related symptoms but want to preserve your uterus and avoid surgery, UFE may be right for you. Your doctor can help you decide which treatment option is best for you based on your medical history and the location and size of your fibroids.

You should not have this procedure if you are pregnant. UFE is not intended for women who desire future pregnancy. The effects of UFE on the ability to become pregnant and carry a fetus to term, and on the development of the fetus, have not been determined. You should discuss these issues with your physician. Please contact 1 877 ASK 4UFE and request a Patient Education Kit for more detailed information regarding this topic.

WHO DO I TALK TO ABOUT UFE?

You can ask your general health practitioner, your OB/GYN or an interventional radiologist (the physician who actually performs the procedure) about UFE. Call 1 877 ASK 4UFE or go online at www.ASK4UFE.com to find an interventional radiologist in your area.

WHAT SHOULD I DISCUSS WITH MY DOCTOR BEFORE THE UFE PROCEDURE?

Let your doctor know if you have any allergies to certain medications, contrast agents used in X-rays, gelatin, iodine, or any other allergies. Be sure to ask your doctor questions related to the procedure and your follow-up care.

UTERINE FIBROID EMBOLIZATION (UFE)

Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE) is an alternative to surgery that preserves the uterus. A non-surgical, uterus-sparing treatment, UFE blocks the blood supply to the fibroids, causing them to shrink.

UFE is clinically proven to be successful in reducing the major symptoms of fibroids, including pain, excessive and prolonged bleeding, and frequent urination.

It is "minimally invasive," requiring only a small nick in the skin. The procedure lasts less than one hour, and most patients are back to work within 8 to 11 days.

Recently, Embosphere® Microspheres are the first and currently the only embolic agent cleared for UFE procedures in the U.S..

HOW IS UFE PERFORMED?

UFE is performed by an interventional radiologist (IR), a doctor who uses X-rays and other imaging techniques to see inside the body and treat conditions without surgery.

During UFE, you will be given pain medications; but you will remain awake. The IR inserts a small tube called a catheter through a small nick in your skin into an artery at the top of the thigh. Using X-ray imaging, the catheter is guided into the uterine artery. Then tiny round particles, known as Embosphere Microspheres, are injected through the catheter into the blood vessels leading to the fibroids. The microspheres block blood flow to the fibroids. This results in both fibroid shrinkage and symptom relief. The microspheres remain permanently in the blood vessels at the fibroid site. This process is repeated in the other uterine artery so that the blood flow feeding the fibroid is completely blocked.

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF UFE?

- Preserves the uterus without surgical risks or hormone replacement therapy
- Decrease in menstrual bleeding from symptomatic fibroids
- Decrease in pain and pressure
- Smaller abdomen
- Improvements in urinary dysfunction
- Covered by most insurance companies
- Shorter hospital stay than hysterectomy
- Quicker return to work and normal activities than hysterectomy
- Overall significant improvement in patient's physical and emotional well-being

WHAT HAPPENS TO ME AFTER THE UFE PROCEDURE?

The procedure takes about one hour to complete and usually requires an overnight hospital stay. Most women feel abdominal pain or cramping, similar to menstrual period cramping, shortly after the procedure. Your doctor will give you medication to keep you comfortable after the procedure. It is important that you and your doctor discuss who will handle your follow-up care after the procedure.

ARE WOMEN SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS OF UFE?

In clinical studies conducted at seven medical centers in the U.S., 132 women who had problems with uterine fibroids were treated with Embosphere Microspheres. After three months, the majority of women in the study had significant reduction in menstrual bleeding, pelvic pain, and frequency of urination. Ninety-four percent of women treated by UFE reported being satisfied with the results of their UFE at six months.

