

Interventional Radiology Treatment of Uterine Fibroid

By Uterine Artery Embolization or Uterine Fibroid Embolization

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Uterine Fibroids are benign tumors of the uterus. They are often a common cause of metrorrhagia, pelvic pain, anemia, bloated abdomen, constipation, dyspareunia and a frequency urination. There are several treatment options for symptomatic uterine fibroids ranging from oral medication to hysterectomy.

Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE) or Uterine Artery Embolization (UAE) is a minimally invasive treatment for uterine fibroid, using as an alternative to myomectomy or hysterectomy. UFE has been practiced more than 20 years with a record of more than 100,000 procedures. Many published literature and clinical experiences show that UFE is safe and effective.

The UFE is performed under local anesthesia and mild sedation in angiography suite by interventional radiologist. It involves inserting a small catheter (<1mm) into both uterine arteries and injecting small particles to block the blood supply to the fibroids. By time, the fibroid will shrink and the symptoms disappear. More than 90% of success rate are reported on controlling the bulk symptoms and metrorrhagia.

It worth noted that the same technique (UAE) is also indicated in Post-Partum Hemorrhage, Adenomyosis, Dysfunctional Bleeding, Uterine artery pseudoaneurysm or AVM...

The UFE is a uterine-sparing procedure with a low risk, high efficacy and cost-effectiveness. This minimally invasive procedure should be used as a reasonable alternative to surgical procedures.