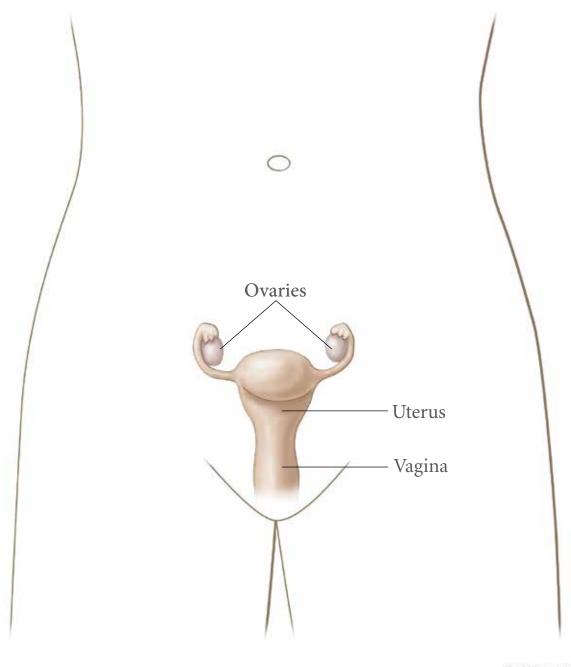


## Treating Symptomatic Uterine Fibroids with Uterine Fibroid Embolization





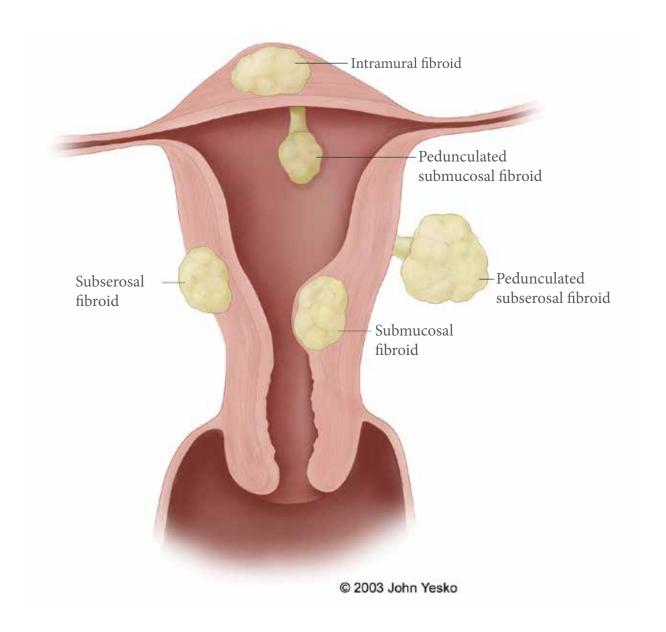
• • Uterine Fibroids (leiomyomas) are noncancerous, smooth muscle tumors of the uterus. They occur in 20 percent to 50 percent of women, depending on age and race.







Uterine Fibroids are classified according to their location within the uterus. There are three primary types of fibroid tumors: subserosal, intramural, and submucosal.
 Pedunculated uterine fibroids occur when the fibroid grows on a stalk.

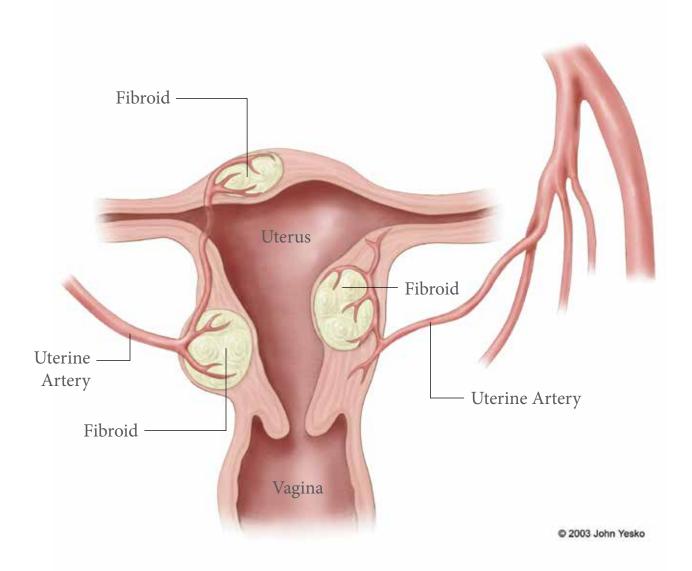






## • • • An Alternative to Hysterectomy

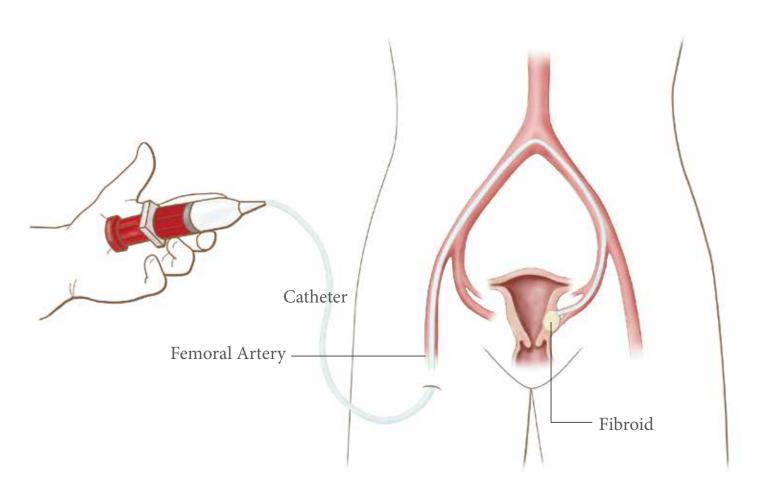
**Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE)** is performed by interventional radiologists, who work with gynecologists to evaluate candidates for this procedure.





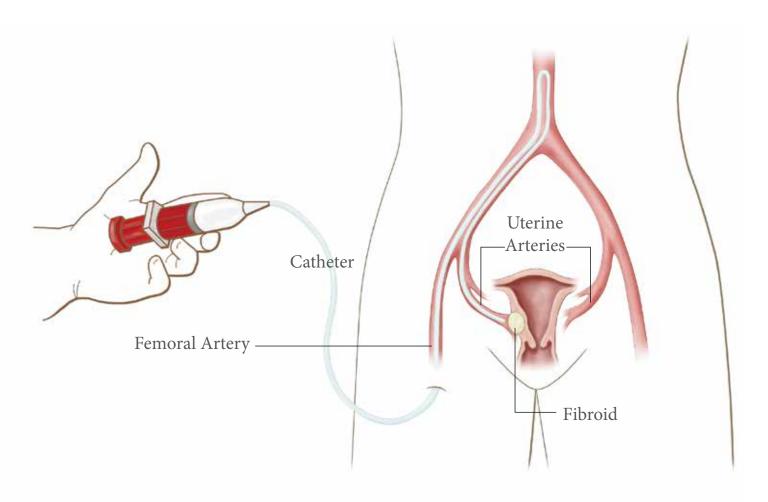


• • During UFE treatment, a tiny tube called a **catheter** is inserted into the **femoral artery** at the top of the leg. Patients receive mild sedation and a numbing agent to minimize discomfort.



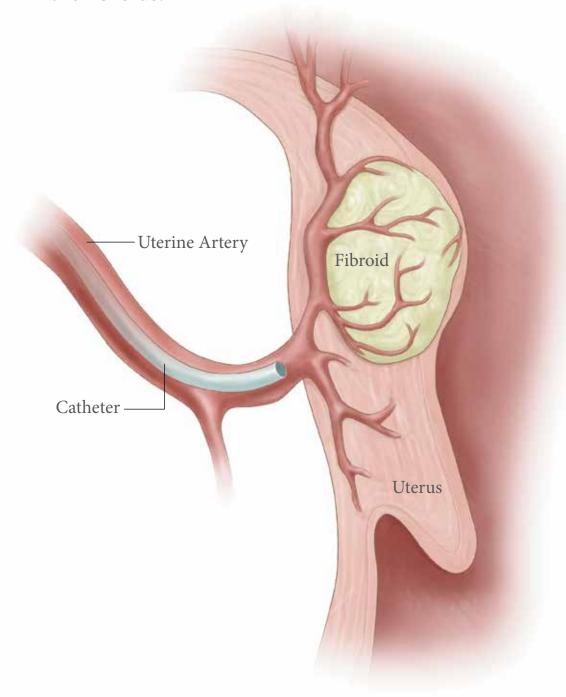


• • Fibroids are treated from both the right and left uterine arteries so that the blood flow feeding the fibroids is completely blocked.





• • The catheter is then guided into the **uterine artery** and an arteriogram (an X-ray in which a dye is injected into the blood vessels) is done to map the arteries feeding the fibroids.

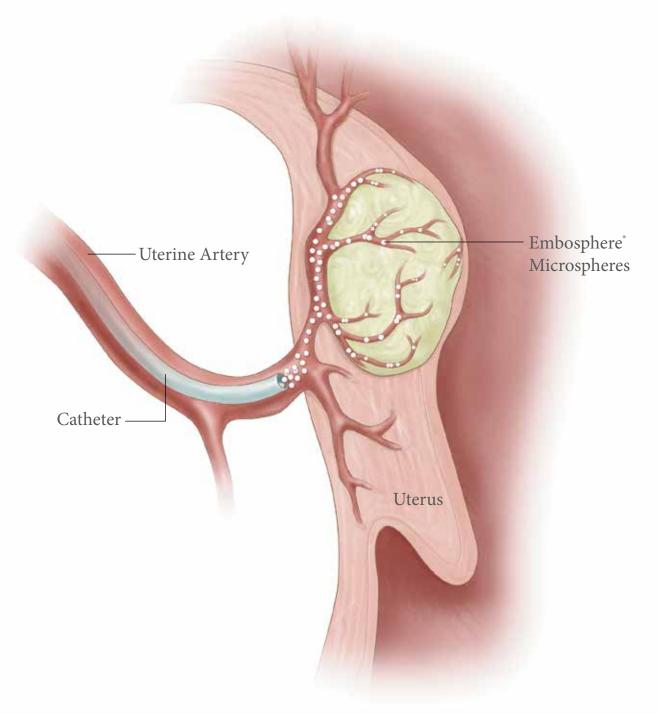








• Next, tiny Embosphere Microspheres are injected through the catheter and into the blood vessels that feed the fibroids, cutting off their blood supply.

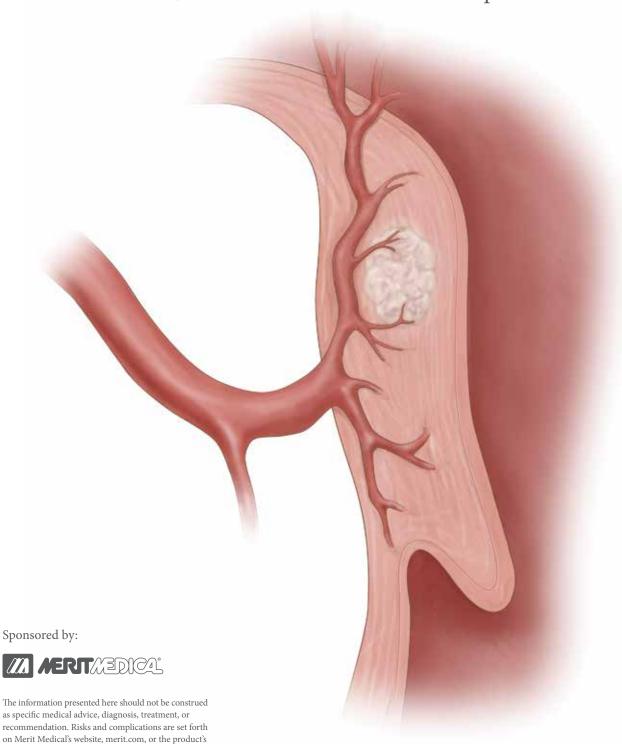








 With their blood supply blocked, the fibroids begin to shrink, but the uterus and ovaries are spared.



© 2003 John Yesko

ask4

More detailed information on Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE)

can be found at ask4UFE.com, or call 1-877-ASK-4-UFE.

patient's success, as results may vary.

Instructions for Use. This material is not a substitute for

a consultation of physical examination by a physician. Only discussion of your individual needs with a qualified physician will determine the best method of treatment for you. Merit Medical assumes no responsibility for a