



6 THINGS

Every Woman Should Know About

UTERINE FIBROIDS & TREATMENT OPTIONS

Uterine fibroids—what are they, and how are they treated?

Uterine fibroids are benign tumors that are common among women and can cause abdominal pain, pressure, heavy bleeding or other complications. Many women may have the symptoms associated with uterine fibroids without knowing the cause.

Scott Faith, M.D., interventional radiologist, sheds some light on this important women's health issue and the advanced treatment options available that every woman should know.

• **Three in four women have uterine fibroids.**

• **Uterine fibroids are noncancerous growths on your uterus.**

They are usually harmless, and most women discover them during regular gynecological exams. Most women do not experience symptoms, but about 25% of women have symptoms that require treatment. Uterine fibroids are more prevalent in African American women. Symptoms include heavy menstrual cycles, pelvic pain, frequent urination, constipation and complications during pregnancy.

• **Fibroids can be treated without surgery.**

Uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) is a nonsurgical, minimally invasive alternative to hysterectomy (removal of the uterus)

DESSERT & DISCUSSION

Thursday, June 26, 6 p.m.

Piedmont Fayette Hospital

1279 Medical Building (3rd floor, conference room C)

1279 Highway 54 West, Fayetteville, Ga. 30214

The event is free but registration is required.

To register, call

877-527-3712 (toll free) or

visit piedmont.org (click classes & events)

or myomectomy (removal of individual fibroids). UFE restricts blood flow to fibroids in the uterus, causing them to shrink or be destroyed.

• **Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE) offers much quicker recovery time.**

The UFE procedure lasts about an hour and a half. Many women are able to return home the same day, after six hours of bed rest. Total recovery lasts about five to seven days. This period is relatively short, compared to the four to six weeks of recovery following a hysterectomy. Many women see UFE as a desirable treatment because it's efficient.

• **Uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) may not be for everybody.**

UFE is for women who are premenopausal and do not plan on becoming preg-

nant. If you are interested in preserving fertility to have children in the future, a myomectomy may be a better treatment option. Other diseases such as diabetes or cancer may complicate the procedure.

• **Uterine fibroid embolization (UFE) is effective.**

Women who undergo treatment report that symptoms are greatly improved. The size of the fibroids are reduced by half, and 85 to 90 percent of patients report an improvement in menstrual cramping and bleeding. However, like any procedure, there are risks involved. While the risks with UFE are low, some women have had to have hysterectomies after completing UFE.

Know what's right for you. Learn more about the impact and treatment of fibroids and what options are right for you. Join Dr. Faith for a "Dessert & Discussion"—a highly informative and interactive discussion about uterine fibroids and treatment options.

Dr. Scott Faith is an interventional and vascular radiologist with Piedmont South Imaging. Dr. Faith earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia and completed his residency in diagnostic radiology at the University of Alabama as well as his fellowship in vascular and interventional radiology and fellowship in body imaging. He is board certified by the American Board of Radiology. Dr. Faith's hospital affiliations include Piedmont Fayette and Piedmont Newnan hospitals.