**Uterine Fibroid Embolization** 

## **UFE A Viable Alternative**

Uterine Fibroid Embolization (UFE) is recommended by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology as a nonsurgical alternative to hysterectomy.



>90% Women who undergo UFE have demonstrated a high level of satisfaction and a significant improvement in quality of life, even over the long term.<sup>1,2</sup>

In a recent study of 4 randomized clinical trials comparing UFE to surgical interventions. UFE was associated with:

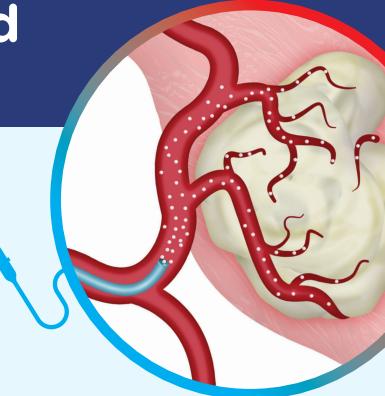


- Minimal blood loss
- No hospital stay
- Faster return to normal activity.3
- Fewer Side Effects

UFE has a complication rate of 1.25%<sup>4</sup> Compared to 17-23% with hysterectomy.<sup>5,6</sup>

Fibroids re-occurrence after UFE is very low, compared with up to 51% of myomectomy patients who require further surgery.

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## THE UFE **PROCEDURE**

During the UFE procedure, a specially trained physician (known as an interventional radiologist) makes a small incision and inserts a catheter into the femoral artery, which extends from near the abdomen down each leg. Using imaging guidance, the catheter is guided into the blood vessels feeding the fibroid(s) in the uterus. Tiny particles called microspheres are injected into the blood vessel, which block the flow of blood into the uterine fibroid, causing it to shrink. As the fibroid shrinks, the symptoms disappear.

The physicians of Vascular and **Inteventional Specialists of** America have been performing UFE for many years and are among the leading experts on this procedure.

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P: 205-905-8411 F: 205-460-8560 VisaVascular.com 3570 Grandview Parkway Suite 100 Birmingham, AL 35243