

Uterine Fibroids

A Short Presentation about this
Common Women's Health Problem



Fibroids are growths within or on the surface of the uterus.

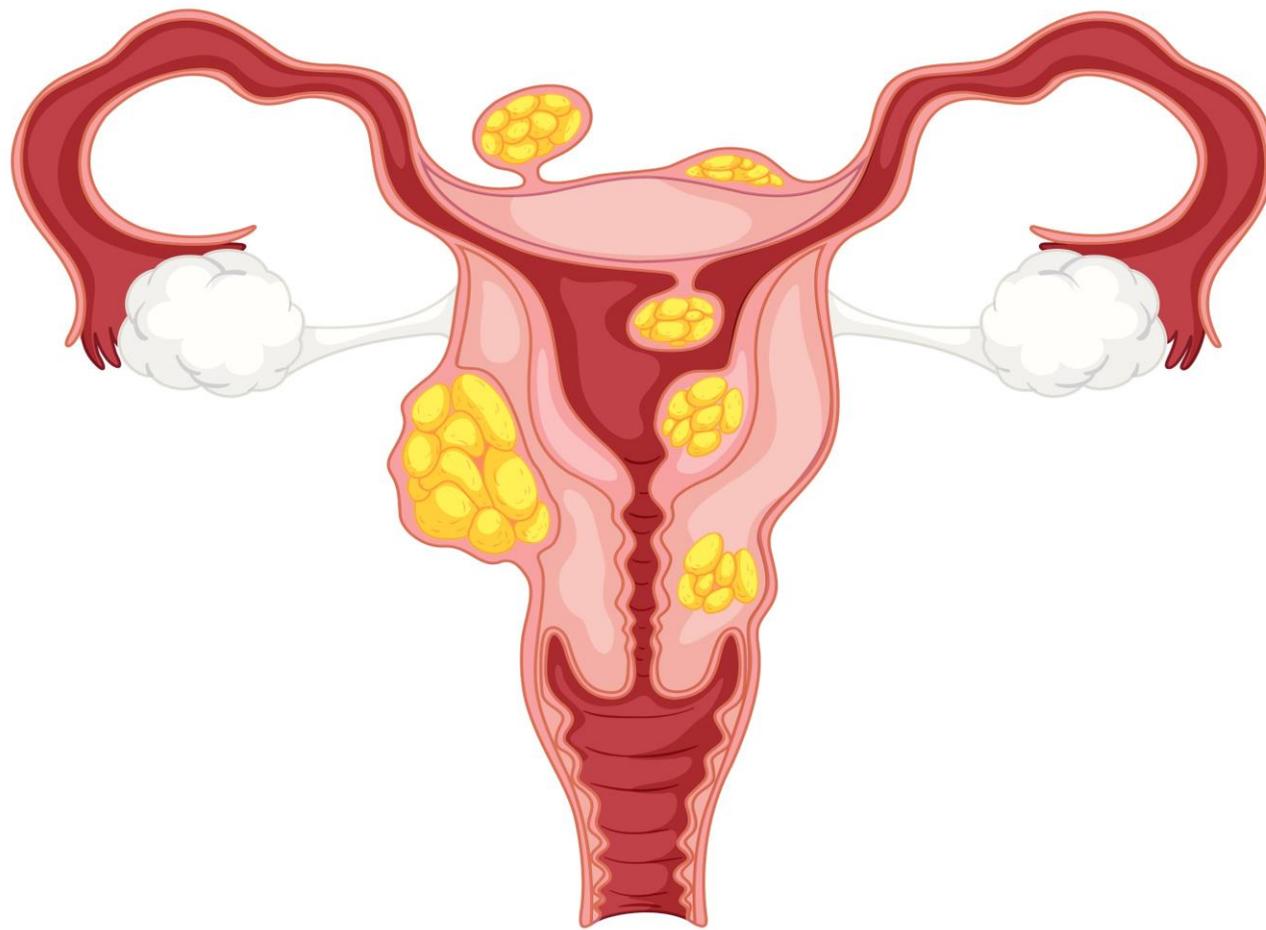
They develop from the muscle wall of the uterus.

They are almost always non-cancerous.

Problems caused by fibroids are the most common reason for hysterectomy.

They vary in size and can become quite large.

What are Uterine Fibroids?



Fibroids Develop within the Smooth Muscle of the Uterus

30 to 50% of women develop fibroids by age 35. They tend to shrink after menopause.

Although fibroids are extremely common for all women, African-American women have a somewhat higher risk.

Family history may also play a role in developing fibroids.

Being significantly overweight increases risk.

Who is at Risk to Develop Uterine Fibroids?

Many women will have no symptoms.

But often fibroids will eventually cause a woman to seek medical care.

Fibroids can cause...

- Pelvic pain
- Abnormal uterine bleeding
- Infertility or problems with pregnancy

What Problems Can Fibroids Cause?

Your doctor may identify fibroids during your pelvic exam.

Your doctor may recommend an ultrasound examination to look for fibroids.

Occasionally a minimally-invasive surgical procedure is needed to diagnose fibroids.

How Can I Know if I Have Fibroids?

Treatment choice depends on...

- Your age (how close you are to menopause)
- Whether you may want a future pregnancy
- No medication will permanently shrink fibroids.
- Depending on how bothersome the fibroids are, your doctor may recommend to only monitor the problem.

If childbearing is a consideration...

- A myomectomy can remove just the fibroid, preserving the uterus.
- Myomectomy is usually a minimally-invasive surgery. It can be done robotically.

If a woman is sure she does not want a future pregnancy...

- A hysterectomy is the preferred treatment since myomectomy cannot guarantee that fibroids will not return.
- In most cases, hysterectomy can be done as robotic surgery.
- Options also include a radiologic procedure.

How are Fibroids Treated?

We recommend an annual women's health exam to detect the development of uterine fibroids.

It is ALWAYS IMPORTANT to investigate the causes of pelvic pain, heavy periods, or abnormal bleeding. A more serious cause is possible.

Almost all fibroids are not cancer, but there is about a 1 in 2000 chance that a malignancy is present.

Robotic surgery offers women the possibility to remove fibroids with less “down-time” than traditional surgery.

READ MORE ABOUT THIS SUBJECT ON OUR WEBSITE:

<https://sparksandfavorpc.com/uterine-fibroids-common-womens-health-problem-2/>

The Take-aways...