

# A Lifetime of Care

## Ask Dr. Lee



Julia Lee, MD

### **I have been told that my uterus is enlarged and that I have fibroids. What is this?**

Fibroids are tumors that develop within the uterine muscle. They are usually non-cancerous. Up to 40 percent of women have these tumors, which commonly develop as a woman reaches her 30's and 40's.

These tumors do tend to run in families. If a family member has had these growths, you face a higher risk of having them yourself.

While fibroids are usually non-cancerous, they tend to grow until menopause. They can be as small as a pea and sometimes even larger than a grapefruit.

Treatment is based on your symptoms. If the fibroids are small and few in number, they usually don't cause any problems. In that case, no treatment is needed. On the other hand, large fibroids can cause bladder and bowel issues as well as pelvic pain and abnormal bleeding patterns.

Today, various treatments for fibroids allow us to find the one that best suits you and your body. These include uterine ablation, removal of the fibroids, or hysterectomy. A new approach called Uterine Artery Embolization is also an option for some women. It blocks the blood supply to the fibroid, causing the tumor to shrink. As the fibroid shrinks, your symptoms lessen.

Our practice cares for women of every age, and all of our doctors welcome new patients. We invite you to call (513) 221-3800 for an appointment to address your fibroids. We look forward to helping you to better health.

### ***Depend on us for the finest obstetric and gynecologic care to support you at every age.***

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### ***Two convenient locations!***

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Suite 375

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6770 Cincinnati-Dayton Rd.  
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