**Patient information**

**Treatment of fibroids in the womb using embolisation**

Embolisation is a method of treatment in which a fibroid's blood supply is blocked so that the fibroid shrinks.

The treatment is carried out in the Radiology Department

A fine tube (catheter) is inserted via the artery in the groin, up to the artery feeding the womb/fibroid. The artery is blocked using particles.

This treatment method is used to ease heavy menstrual bleeding and/or pressure symptoms caused by an enlarged womb due to fibroids.

You can expect the fibroids to shrink over the course of six months. Heavy menstrual bleeding will usually become lighter after a few months.

This procedure is not recommended if you wish to have children in the future, as we don't know enough about the consequences of the treatment method with regard to possible pregnancy complications.

 

**Before treatment**

You will have been given information about the treatment during the preliminary examination/"journal recording" at the Gynaecological Outpatient's Clinic. If you are taking medication it is important that your medication list is updated.

The following tests are taken in connection with the preliminary examination:

* Cell sample/pap smear from the cervix and the womb cavity.
* Bacterial sample from the cervix.
* MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) scan of the womb and pelvis (booked in connection with your consultation at the Gynaecological Outpatient's Clinic)

Also, if you have a contraceptive coil, it will be removed.

Blood tests are taken on admittance for the treatment.

**On the day of the treatment**

* You will usually be given a sedative and a pain relief tablet 1 hour before the treatment.
* You will, in addition, be given a single dose of antibiotics to help prevent infection.
* A urine catheter will be put in place.
* You will get a epidural catheter for anaesthesia.

**Complications during treatment**
Bleeding may arise relating to insertion of the catheter in the groin.

**After returning home**

Most will need pain relief medication for up to a week after the treatment, due to discomfort similar to period/menstruation pains. There may also be light bleeding, discharge, and a fever during this time.

You will be given a sick note for 10-14 days.

 **Complications**

Infection may necessitate removal of the womb, but this is very rare (1 in 100). Contact us if you have a fever of more than 38 degrees Celsius, severe pain in the abdomen/genitals, or a strong smelling discharge.
In rare cases, your periods may cease so that menopause begins (1 in 100).

Contact the Gynaecological Ward 4AC on tel.: **51 51 87 77**

# Follow-up

* Blood tests (tests for infection) are taken after 2 weeks at you GP's/family doctor's office, or at the hospital.
* If the treatment has not had enough effect after 6 months, your doctor may refer you again.

**Welcome to the Women's Clinic**Stavanger university hospital

[Siter kilden din her.]

Kvinneklinikken SUS, December 2022
[www.sus.no/kvinneklinkken](http://www.sus.no/kvinneklinkken)