**UTERINE FIBROID EMBOLIZATION**

**PATIENT INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS**

Uterine fibroid embolization, also known as uterine artery embolization is a minimally invasive procedure that will be performed by an Interventional Radiologist (IR), a medical doctor with extensive experience in radiology. The entire fibroid treatment typically lasts less than one hour, and is performed as an outpatient therapy. Patients have to stay 6 hours after the procedure is completed in our post-operative care are managed by our clinical staff.

The uterine fibroid embolization procedure begins with a tiny incision in the femoral or radial artery. Using specialized X-ray equipment, the IR passes a catheter (small tube) into the femoral/radial artery, to the uterine artery, and guides it near the location of the fibroid tumor. When the IR has reached the location of the fibroids, embolic material (small spheres) are injected through the catheter and into the blood flow leading to the uterine fibroid tumors. The embolic material is designed to block the vessels around the fibroid, depriving it of the blood and oxygen it needs to grow. The blood and oxygen deprivation results in fibroids shrinking. The embolic material remains permanently in the blood vessels at the fibroid site.

You are to have nothing to eat or drink after midnight the day before your scheduled procedure. Do not take any NSAIDS, ASA 7 days prior to your procedure. If you are prescribed any blood thinners you will need to stop those on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

On the day of your scheduled procedure be sure to shower in the morning as usual avoiding any lotions, powders, perfumes or creams afterwards. Wear loose fitting comfortable clothing and remove jewelry. A responsible adult will be necessary to drive you home after your procedure; as well as, a responsible adult should be available to you for at least the first 24hours after your scheduled procedure.

After the procedure, you may experience some discomfort such as abdominal cramping or pain. Our physician has supplied you with prescriptions. These prescriptions are to be filled prior to the day of your scheduled procedure, and ALL are to be brought with you on the morning of your procedure. **It is very important for you to follow all the prescribed medication directions to ensure proper pain management and healing.**

 ***Scopolamine patch applied behind ear night before scheduled procedure***

 ***Fentanyl patch applied to upper right/left shoulder or back on the morning of scheduled procedure***

 ***OxyContin 10mg tablets take first dose by mouth morning of procedure***

 ***Percocet 5/325mg to be started after your procedure, take 1-2tablets q4-6hr as needed for pain***

 ***Naprosyn 500mg take 3x a day to be started the day after your procedure***

 ***Cipro 500mg take 2x a day to be started the day after your procedure***

 ***Zofran 4mg q6hr as needed for nausea***

You are scheduled to undergo a Uterine Fibroid Embolization on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Any questions/concerns prior to your procedure please feel free to contact our office at the number listed above.