# Fibroids

Fibroids are abnormal growths in or on a woman's uterus. By the age of 50 years, about 80% of black women and 70% of white women have fibroids. Symptoms can include heavy menstrual bleeding, lower abdominal pain during menstruation, pelvic pain and pressure, increased urgency and frequency of urination, and constipation. Symptoms usually are the worst in the years before menopause and subside afterward.

For women who are suspected to have fibroids, duplex Doppler ultrasound of the pelvis (https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/pelvus) , transabdominal ultrasound of the pelvis, and transvaginal ultrasound of the pelvis are usually appropriate. These are complementary tests, and more than one is ordered at the same time. MRI of the pelvis without and with intravenous (IV) contrast and MRI of the pelvis (https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/mri-abdomen-pelvis) without IV contrast may be appropriate.

For women with known fibroids who are planning treatment, duplex Doppler ultrasound of the pelvis, transabdominal ultrasound of the pelvis, transvaginal ultrasound of the pelvis, and MRI of the pelvis without and with IV contrast are usually appropriate. These are complementary tests. MRI of the pelvis without IV contrast may be appropriate.

For women with known fibroids who are in the posttreatment or surveillance stage, duplex Doppler ultrasound of the pelvis, transabdominal ultrasound of the pelvis, transvaginal ultrasound of the pelvis, and MRI of the pelvis without and with IV contrast are usually appropriate. These are complementary tests. MRI of the pelvis without IV contrast and CT of the pelvis (https://www.radiologyinfo.org/en/info/abdominct) with IV contrast may be appropriate.

— By Elaine Liang and Gregory J. Czuczman, MD. This information originally appeared in the *Journal of the American College of Radiology*.

## Disclaimer

This information is copied from the RadiologyInfo Web site (http://www.radiologyinfo.org) which is dedicated to providing the highest quality information. To ensure that, each section is reviewed by a physician with expertise in the area presented. All information contained in the Web site is further reviewed by an ACR (American College of Radiology) - RSNA (Radiological Society of North America) committee, comprising physicians with expertise in several radiologic areas.

However, it is not possible to assure that this Web site contains complete, up-to-date information on any particular subject. Therefore, ACR and RSNA make no representations or warranties about the suitability of this information for use for any particular purpose. All information is provided "as is" without express or implied warranty.

Please visit the RadiologyInfo Web site at **http://www.radiologyinfo.org** to view or download the latest information.

**Note:** Images may be shown for illustrative purposes. Do not attempt to draw conclusions or make diagnoses by comparing these images to other medical images, particularly your own. Only qualified physicians should interpret images; the radiologist is the physician expert trained in medical imaging.

## Copyright

This material is copyrighted by either the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), 820 Jorie Boulevard, Oak Brook, IL 60523-2251 or the American College of Radiology (ACR), 1891 Preston White Drive, Reston, VA 20191-4397. Commercial reproduction or multiple distribution by any traditional or electronically based reproduction/publication method is prohibited.

Copyright ® 2026 Radiological Society of North America, Inc.