

## **MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS** **RESEARCH SUMMARY**

TOPIC:        ACESSA TREATMENT SHRINKS FIBROIDS  
REPORT:       **MB #5119**

**BACKGROUND:** Uterine fibroids, also called leiomyomas, are growths made up of the muscle and connective tissue from the wall of the uterus. These growths are usually not cancerous (benign). Fibroids are actually a very common type of growth in your pelvis. Approximately 40 to 80 percent of people have fibroids. However, many people don't experience any symptoms from their fibroids, so they don't realize they have fibroids. This can happen when you have small fibroids — called asymptomatic because they don't cause you to feel anything unusual. About 20 percent to 80 percent of women develop fibroids by the time they reach age 50. Fibroids are most common in women in their 40s and early 50s.

(Sources: <https://my.clevelandclinic.org/health/diseases/9130-uterine-fibroids>  
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids#:~:text=About%20%20percent%20to%2080,fibroids%20hard%20to%20live%20with.>)

**DIAGNOSING:** Many women who have fibroids don't have any symptoms. In those that do, symptoms can be influenced by the location, size, and number of fibroids. In women who have symptoms, the most common signs and symptoms of uterine fibroids include heavy menstrual bleeding, menstrual periods lasting more than a week, pelvic pressure or pain, frequent urination, difficulty emptying the bladder, constipation, and/or backache or leg pains. Uterine fibroids are frequently found incidentally during a routine pelvic exam. Your doctor may feel irregularities in the shape of your uterus, suggesting the presence of fibroids. If you have symptoms of uterine fibroids, your doctor may order an ultrasound or lab tests. If traditional ultrasound doesn't provide enough information, your doctor may order other imaging studies, such as an MRI, hysterosonography, hysterosalpingography, or hysteroscopy.

(Sources: <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/uterine-fibroids/symptoms-causes/syc-20354288>  
<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/uterine-fibroids/diagnosis-treatment/drc-20354294>)

**NEW TREATMENT:** Myovant Sciences (NYSE: MYOV) and Pfizer Inc. (NYSE: PFE) announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved MYFEMBREE®, the first once-daily treatment for the management of heavy menstrual bleeding associated with uterine fibroids in premenopausal women, with a treatment duration of up to 24 months. “With MYFEMBREE, we can offer women with uterine fibroids a non-invasive treatment that provides clinically meaningful symptom relief for heavy menstrual bleeding with one pill, once-a-day,” said Ayman Al-Hendy, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Chicago, and LIBERTY Program Steering Committee Member. “The FDA approval of MYFEMBREE represents a significant milestone in expanding treatment options for uterine fibroids, a chronic and debilitating disease for many women in the U.S.”

(Source: [https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/myovant-sciences-and-pfizer-receive-fda-approval-myfembree#:~:text=\(NYSE%3A%20PFE\)%20today%20announced,in%20premenopausal%20women%2C%20with%20a](https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/myovant-sciences-and-pfizer-receive-fda-approval-myfembree#:~:text=(NYSE%3A%20PFE)%20today%20announced,in%20premenopausal%20women%2C%20with%20a))

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**If this story or any other Ivanhoe story has impacted your life or prompted you or someone you know to seek or change treatments, please let us know by contacting Marjorie Bekaert Thomas at [mthomas@ivanhoe.com](mailto:mthomas@ivanhoe.com)**