

*After successful clinical trials,  
new procedure available  
in Southwestern Michigan*

If you've been diagnosed with uterine fibroids, ask your physician about a new, non-invasive way to treat them. You're fortunate to live in an area where this new procedure was pioneered, tested and proven successful in clinical trials. KNI/Southwest Michigan Imaging Center teamed with Premier Radiology, Borgess Research Institute and Borgess Women's Health to conduct a clinical trial of an ablation treatment for uterine fibroids. Under the trial protocol, eligible women were treated with highly targeted ultrasound while an MRI unit provided the precise location of the fibroids to guide the ultrasound beam.

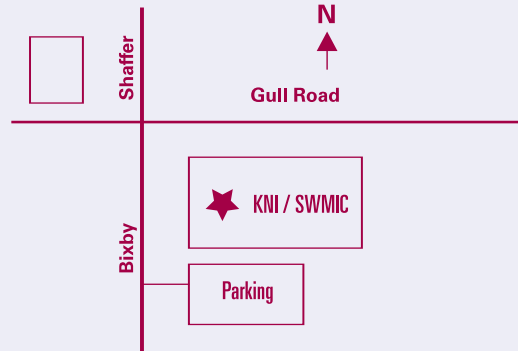
This was the first clinical trial in the nation to use a powerful and safe 3-Tesla MRI. A Tesla is a measure of a magnet's strength. After the success of the trial, KNI and Premier Radiology continue to collaborate to offer the most innovative and effective treatments for uterine fibroid tumors.



*Have More Questions?*

If you have more questions about MRI-guided ultrasound ablation for uterine fibroid tumors, talk with your physician, or call Mike Wilson, RN, BSN, Clinical Director of this program offered through Premier Radiology and KNI.

He can be reached at 269-276-9196.



**KNI / PREMIER**  
Medical Imaging

1700 Gull Road  
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

*A new,  
effective treatment  
of uterine fibroid  
tumors*



Ultrasound



MRI-Guided



Non-Invasive

## *About this procedure*

This ablation treatment uses ultrasound waves that are guided by Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). The procedure does not require hospitalization and typically you can return to normal activities within one or two days.

Uterine fibroid tumors are not cancerous but can cause a variety of problems, including heavy menstrual bleeding, anemia, pelvic discomfort or frequent urination. The standard of care is surgery, most often a hysterectomy. While effective, a hysterectomy requires a prolonged recovery and carries risks associated with any major surgery.

During the ultrasound treatment, the patient is given a mild anesthetic and placed face down on a special table that is part of the MRI unit. Once the target area is determined with the MRI, high-frequency ultrasound waves are transmitted through the skin of the abdomen to generate a small hot spot in the uterine fibroid, causing the targeted tissue to die.

There is no incision, no inserted probes and the entire procedure takes three to four hours.



## *Who may undergo ultrasound ablation?*

Women must be referred by a physician who has diagnosed them with uterine fibroid tumors. To undergo the treatment, women must also desire non-surgical alternative treatment, have completed their families (don't anticipate getting pregnant again) and may not be breastfeeding.

## *What are the risks?*

Medical procedures entail risk, but very few side effects have been reported with this treatment. The focused ultrasound treatment could cause some pain, a skin burn, or fever. There is the possibility of damage to the bowel or bladder, but this is minimized through the use of MR imaging during the treatment, to visualize the exact location of the focused ultrasound. You could have an allergic reaction to the MRI dye or the medication for pain. There may be other risks that your doctor will discuss with you.



## *Where is the procedure done?*

The outpatient procedure is done at KNI/Southwest Michigan Imaging Center, 1700 Gull Road, by a medical team led by physicians at KNI and Premier Radiology. The team uses equipment specially designed and approved by the FDA for this procedure along with the most powerful MRI equipment available.

KNI has pioneered virtually every MRI advancement in Southwestern Michigan over the past 25 years. Premier Radiology has established itself as the leader in interventional radiology for the region, and is on the forefront of medical practices attending to medical issues affecting women.