

# **Efficacy and safety of ulipristal acetate (UPA) in Korean patients with symptomatic uterine fibroids: How much volume reduction can actually be expected?**

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## **Background:**

To investigate the efficacy and safety of ulipristal acetate (UPA) in Korean patients with symptomatic uterine fibroids.

## **Methods:**

This retrospective study included 107 patients with symptomatic fibroids including heavy menstrual bleeding. Patients received up to three 3-month courses of UPA 5 mg daily at a single institute between 03/01/2014 and 03/01/2016.

## **Results:**

After the UPA courses, the rate of amenorrhea was 72.6% and uterine bleeding was controlled in 91.6% of patients. The median change in largest three fibroid volume (cm<sup>3</sup>) was +13.4% (range, -69% to +358%). Volume decreased by more than 25% in 34.3% of patients and increased by more than 25% in 21.4% of patients. The median change in uterine volume (cm<sup>3</sup>) was -2.2% (range, -70% to +176%). Serious adverse events (severe uterine bleeding) occurred in two patients. Adverse events occurred in 19% of patients and abnormal uterine bleeding (non-serious), myalgia, and hot flush were the most common adverse events associated with UPA (4 patients, respectively).

## **Conclusions:**

Repeated 3-month UPA courses effectively control bleeding and seem to induce amenorrhea well in patients with symptomatic fibroids. However, in the case of uterine myoma volume reduction, it seems that the effect is not as good as the result of the previous reports. Further retrospective studies with larger samples are required to confirm the efficacy and safety of UPA in Asian patients with symptomatic fibroids.

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Keywords : ulipristal acetate; leiomyoma; fibroid; uterine hemorrhage

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