

Female Sterilization & Tubal Ligation Side Effects

Tubal ligation, female sterilization and medical device treatments which affect the fallopian tubes for the purpose of birth control are conceived to be permanent non-reversible forms of birth control. **Female sterilization** and tubal ligation (TL) is a surgical procedure in which a physician seals shut a woman's fallopian tubes using coagulation (burning the tubes/sometimes called "tying the tubes") or by using a medical device such as a clip (Hulka or **Filshie Clip**), a ring, a band, or an Ovalastic, Ova Bloc, Adiana, or **Essure** type product to seal shut or block (obstruct) the fallopian tube.

Other methods of sterilization includes bilateral salpingectomy (removal of both fallopian tubes), fimbriectomy (removal of fimbrial and infundibular portions of the fallopian tube), hysterectomy (removal of the uterus), and using chemicals such as Mepacrine (also called quinacrine) which are placed into the uterus in pellet form then dissolve and scar the fallopian tubes causing the tubes to seal shut. Female sterilizations are performed during pelvic surgery, cesarean section (c-section), and by laparoscopy (aka minilaparotomy or "minilap") while non-surgical (no cut) permanent birth control (PBC) sterilizations are performed using a hysteroscope (hysteroscopy).



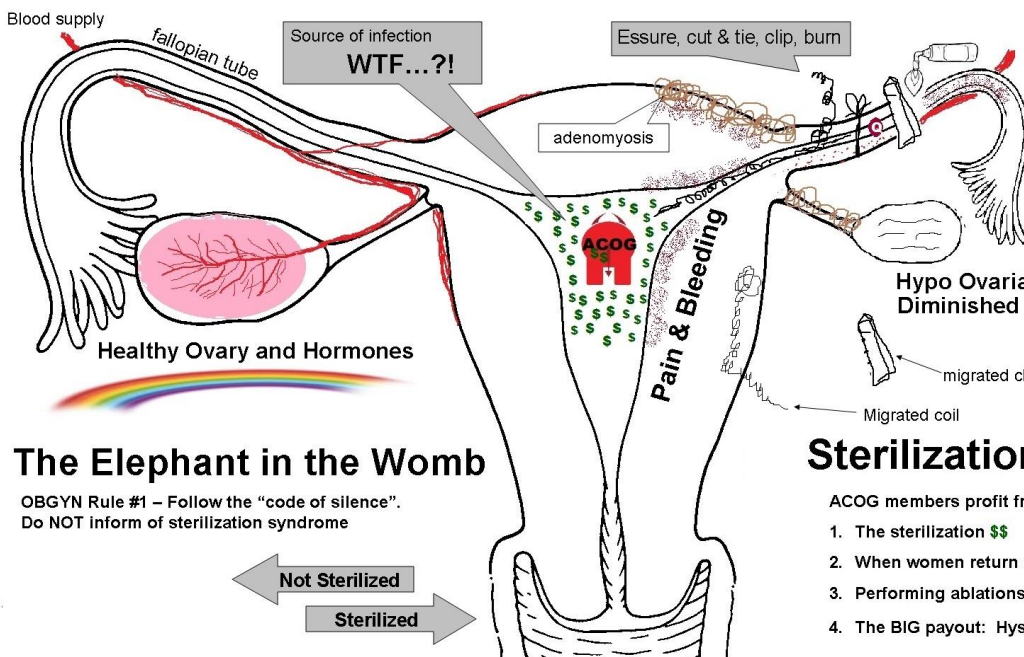
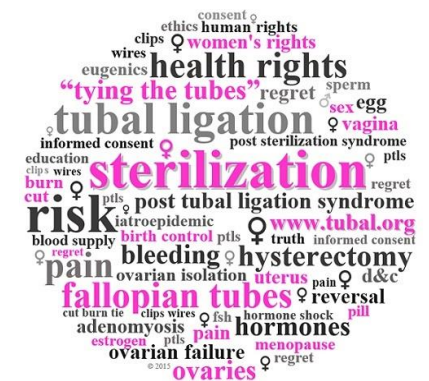
All forms of female sterilization have known and potential negative side effects called "Post Tubal Ligation Syndrome" (PTLS) aka "Post Sterilization Syndrome" which legally and ethically women need to be informed of when consenting to sterilization.

Female sterilization and tubal ligation can physically cause andromyosis that manifests as dysfunctional uterine bleeding (which may require surgical remedies such as ablation, D&C or complete hysterectomies to correct excessive bleeding), pelvic congestion syndrome, and can also affect the blood supply to the ovaries causing anovulation (ovaries failing to normally function or to ovulate). Medical devices used to achieve sterilization such as the clips and Essure type products are made with polyester PET fibers, silicone and nickel-titanium metal alloy materials which for some women can aggravate or create sensitivities, allergies, silicone immune toxicity syndrome, systemic nickel allergy syndrome, titanium allergies and more. Currently OBGYN's and the ACOG tell women sterilization will have no effect upon them physically, will not effect their hormones, and the materials in the medical devices are inert and safe.

The Coalition for Post Tubal Ligation Women (CPTwomen) is working to put in place **informed consent laws** that would make it mandatory for doctors to inform women of the known and potential side effects of sterilization before women consent to the surgery, procedure, or treatment.

Our goals are to:

- Share information
- Promote change
- Put in place proper inform consent laws



The Elephant in the Womb

OBGYN Rule #1 – Follow the "code of silence".
Do NOT inform of sterilization syndrome



Sterilization Syndrome

ACOG members profit from:

1. The sterilization \$\$
2. When women return complaining \$\$\$
3. Performing ablations and other treatments \$\$\$\$
4. The BIG payout: Hysterecctomy \$\$\$\$\$ "Jackpot"!!!



Women today are not fully informed about the risks of tubal ligation and female sterilization. When it is realized that information is withheld about negative physical and hormonal side effects known by the OBGYN medical community as **post tubal ligation syndrome (PTLS)** or **post sterilization syndrome** it becomes evident that consent is given under false pretenses.

Information is withheld to persuade women to make the decision that the doctor wants them to make. Withholding information from women at the time of consent is an intentional fraud. Doctors/organizations who state there are no negative side effects resulting from tubal ligation and other forms of female sterilization are committing intentional misrepresentation. **Withholding information constitutes forced (fraudulent) consent.**

Whistleblower Dr. Hufnagel, MD states, "This is a multimillion dollar industry & the boys KNOW they are hurting women..."

When learning that information was withheld from them, women in the U.S.A. today do not immediately equate this to having been a victim of physical assault and battery nor completely understand that they were forcibly sterilized. Women in the U.S.A. are not carried away forcibly to the operating table kicking and screaming, **they are led to the operating table for sterilization with a blindfold on.**

There is a long history of forced sterilization in the U.S. and this abuse continues today. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) publicly denies that tubal ligations cause conditions such as post tubal ligation syndrome (PTLS) or hormonal imbalances. This issue can be directly compared to the tobacco companies withholding information from the public. The only difference here is when people developed health problems from smoking they were not required to return directly to the tobacco companies for help and health treatment. When women develop a post sterilization syndrome they have no choice but to return to the same ob-gyn doctors and their organization (the ACOG) who withheld the information from them initially.

This issue could be also compared to the recent NFL's head injury scandal. Watch: PBS FRONTLINE **League of Denial:** The NFL's Concussion Crisis (aired 10/08/2013). When viewing this documentary all one needs to do is substitute the words "women" for "players", "ACOG" for "NFL", and "post sterilization syndrome" for "concussion". The NFL's adamant denial regarding concussions could be compared to the steadfast denial the ACOG has towards post sterilization syndrome. Similarities can also be seen in bias studies and research that has been created and presented, and how whistleblowers have been treated.

Tubal ligation and female sterilization is known by the ACOG and their members to cause negative side effects. They do not deny that there are studies that directly correlate hormonal changes, pelvic pain, and menstrual disorders. Side effects to sterilization have been proven through clinical research/studies and have been reported by health professionals and victims who have experienced side effects first hand after sterilization for decades. The ACOG is well aware of the cases and scientific reports yet they refuse to publicly acknowledge the findings or share this information with women. When publicly asked about post tubal syndrome or the associated studies they state that the studies are "unproven", have been "disproven", or that the issue is "controversial" ...

Yes, they are right... it is controversial!

The ACOG call themselves, "The Women's Health Care Physicians" advocating (the) "highest standards of practice". They have "ethics committees". They are supposed to have women's best interest in mind... (physical health and otherwise). They are to "watch out" for women and protect women's health... but then we learn that the ACOG and their members withhold this information from women undergoing tubal ligations and from the public at large. No one is informed before or after the procedure.

The ACOG and their members know that when tubal ligation surgeries and sterilizations are performed that many of the women will be returning for second and third surgeries such as ablations, D&C's (dilation and curettage) and hysterectomies because of side effects from the sterilization. The very same organization/ob-gyn doctors that withheld the information and profited by doing so **then go on to profit again** from the original consumer fraud. Women are not informed at the time of their sterilization that the surgery or procedure could create such conditions that would necessitate such treatments. Women are told at the time of these second and third surgical procedures that their sterilization had in no way caused their health condition that necessitated such radical procedures. **This creates a cycle of abuse.**

The CPTwomen is not anti-tubal. We are against the withholding of information by the ACOG/medical community in order to force consent. We believe that tubal ligations should be presented as a choice to women as a form of birth control but with full consent which would disclose the risk of sterilization syndrome.

The goal of the Coalition for Post Tubal Ligation Women (CPTwomen) is to put in place proper **informed consent laws** so that women may be properly and fully informed of all the known and possible risks before consenting to tubal ligation or female sterilization. In doing so we will be taking the final step towards ending this cycle of abuse.