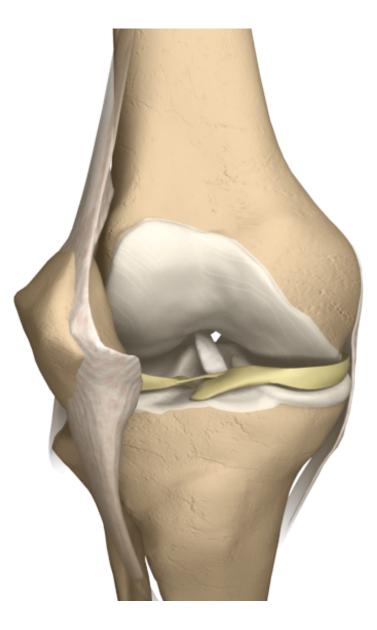




Articular Cartilage Problems - Removal of Damaged Cartilage

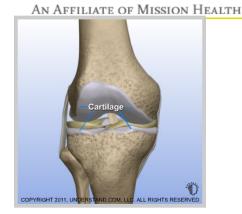
Articular cartilage is a firm rubbery tissue that covers the ends of bones. It provides a smooth gliding surface for joints and acts as a cushion between bones.



This content is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to represent actual surgical technique or results. The information is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, treatment or care. Always seek the advice of a medical professional when you have a medical condition. Do not disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking advice if you have read something in this printout. Copyright © 2013, Understand.com, LLC, All Rights Reserved.

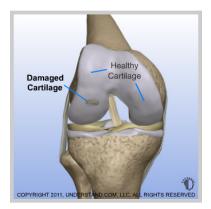






Introduction – Removal of Damaged Cartilage

Articular cartilage is a firm rubbery tissue that covers the ends of bones. It provides a smooth gliding surface for joints and acts as a cushion between bones.



When the Procedure is Performed

Cartilage can break down due to overuse or injury. This can lead to pain and swelling and problems with your joint. Your treatment will depend on the size of the defect and the judgment of your surgeon.



Incisions

Small incisions (portals) are made around the joint. The scope and surgical instruments will go into these incisions.

This content is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to represent actual surgical technique or results. The information is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, treatment or care. Always seek the advice of a medical professional when you have a medical condition. Do not disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking advice if you have read something in this printout. Copyright © 2013, Understand.com, LLC, All Rights Reserved.







Visualization

The scope is inserted into the knee. Saline solution flows through a tube (cannula) and into the knee to expand the joint and to improve visualization. The image is sent to a video monitor where the surgeon can see inside the joint.



Removal

The damaged cartilage is removed from the joint using a specialized surgical instrument.



Enhancing Healing

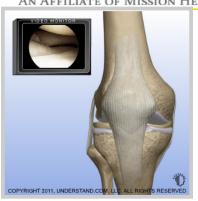
Once the damaged cartilage is removed, your surgeon may choose to bur or scrape the exposed bone. This scraping will help heal the injured area.

This content is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to represent actual surgical technique or results. The information is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, treatment or care. Always seek the advice of a medical professional when you have a medical condition. Do not disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking advice if you have read something in this printout. Copyright © 2013, Understand.com, LLC, All Rights Reserved.





AN AFFILIATE OF MISSION HEALTH



End of Procedure

After the damaged cartilage is removed, the surgical instruments are removed and the procedure is completed.

This content is for informational purposes only. It is not intended to represent actual surgical technique or results. The information is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, treatment or care. Always seek the advice of a medical professional when you have a medical condition. Do not disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking advice if you have read something in this printout. Copyright © 2013, Understand.com, LLC, All Rights Reserved.