



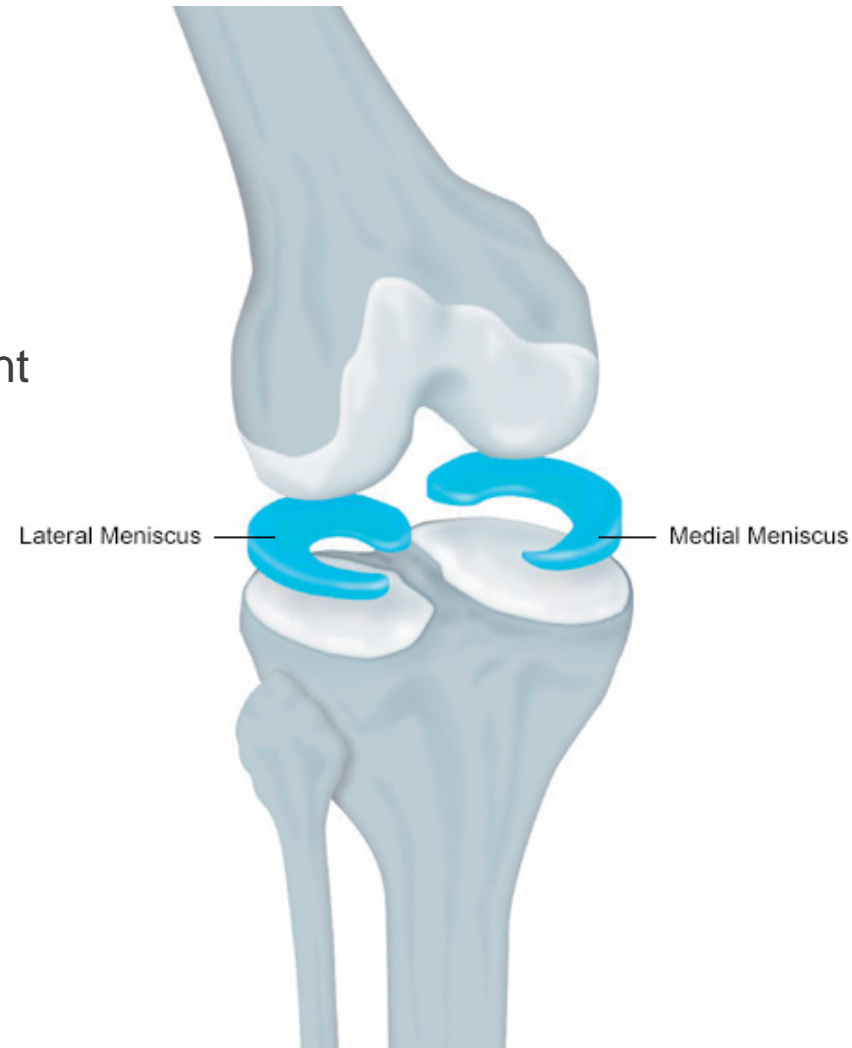
Management of Degenerative Meniscal Tears

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APAC Clinical & Education Manager – OA & IS

APAC OA&IS Webinar 1 – May 3rd 2017

OVERVIEW

- Anatomy
- Function of the meniscus
- Meniscal injuries
- Risk factors, symptoms, treatment
- Changing trends in management/treatment
- Clinical Evidence
- Brace options

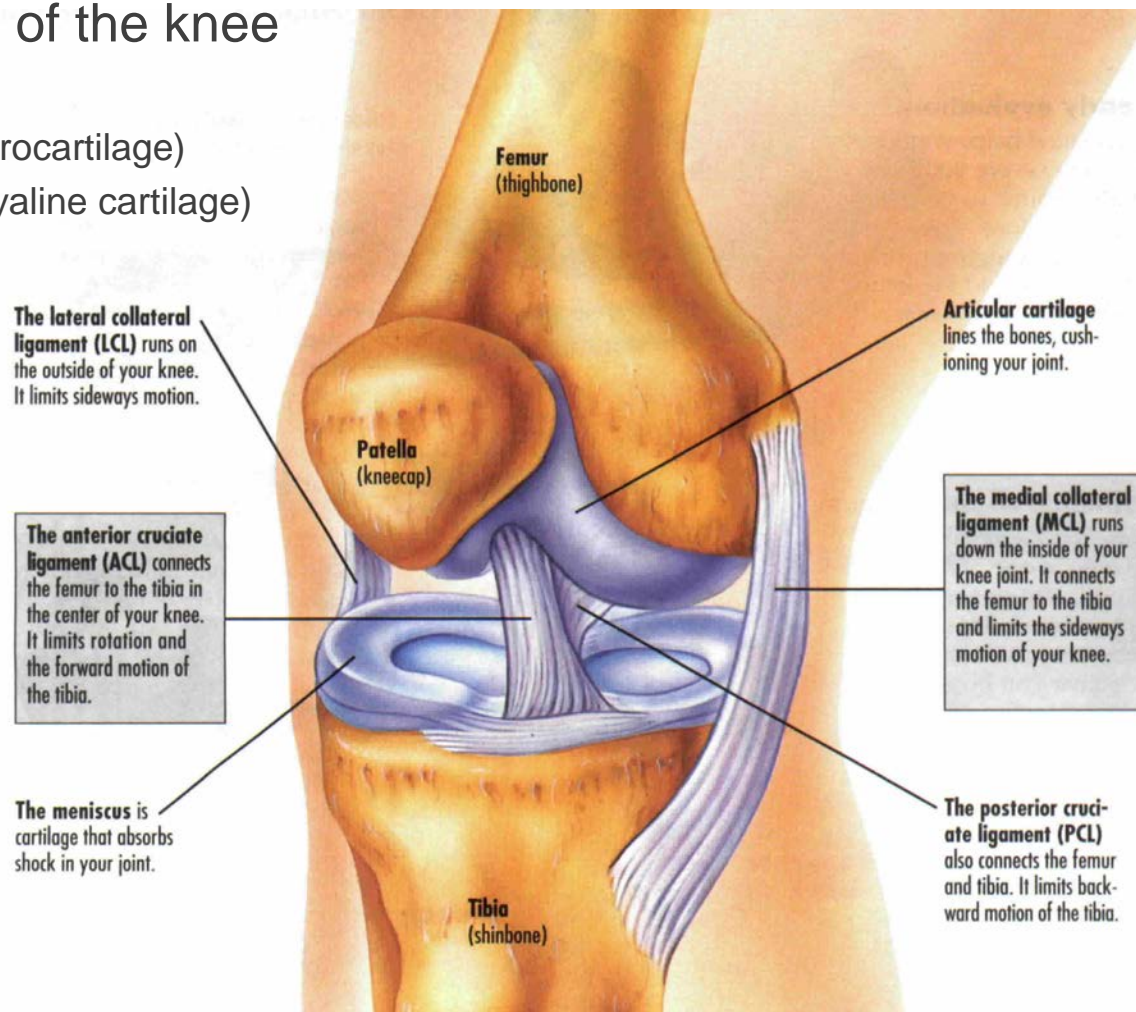


KNEE ANATOMY

- Key structures of the knee

- Cartilage

- Menisci (fibrocartilage)
- Articular (hyaline cartilage)

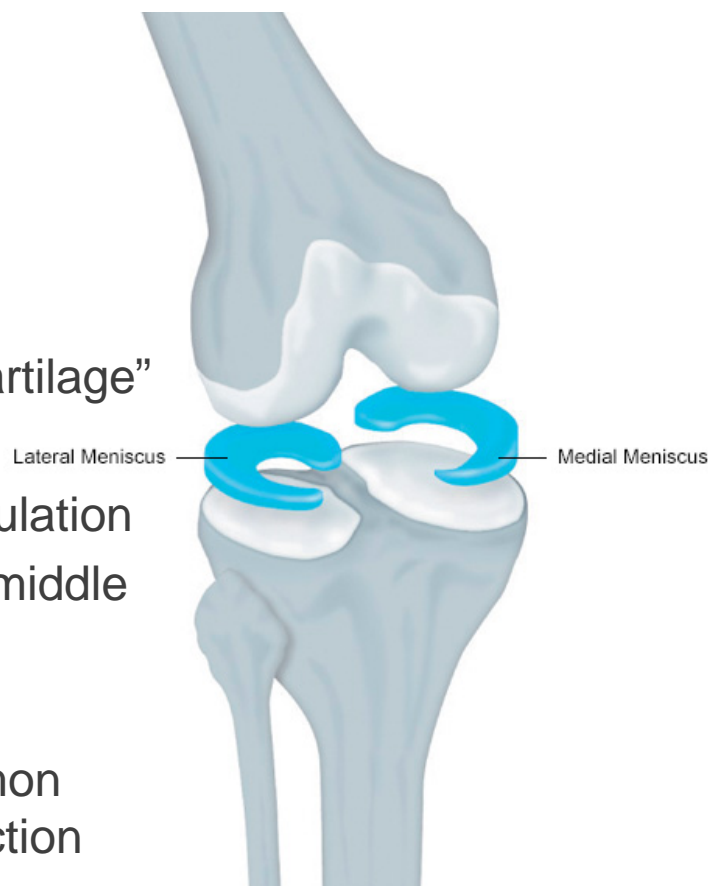


MENISCAL INJURY

- Injury of the menisci is one of the most prevalent injuries in the human body (medial>lateral)
- Its investigation and treatment includes surgical techniques that are among the most commonly performed orthopaedic procedures worldwide.

<http://www.racgp.org.au/afp/2012/april/meniscal-tear/>

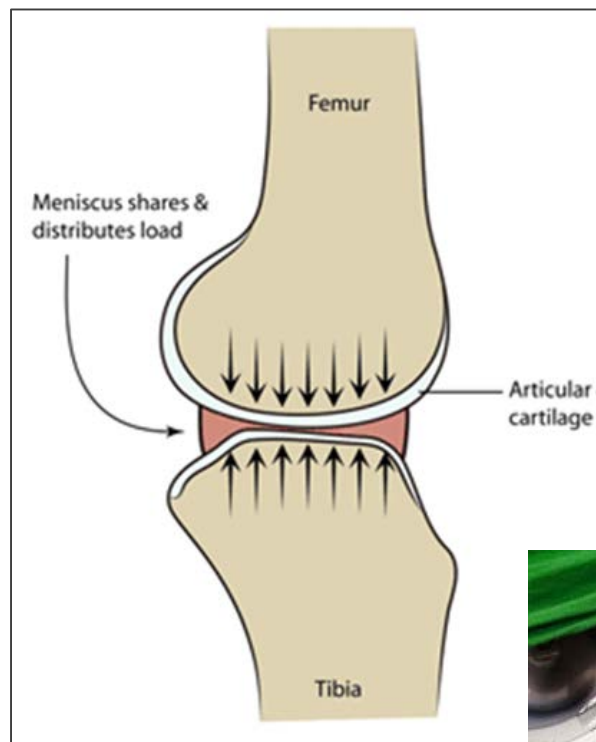
- Menisci are c-shaped *fibro-cartilage* discs
- Often meniscal injuries are described as “torn cartilage”
- **Acute/Traumatic** meniscal tears – younger population
- **Degenerative/non-traumatic** meniscal tears – middle age/older population
- Degenerative meniscal tears are the most common aetiology for knee pain, swelling and loss of function



FUNCTION

The menisci have several functions:

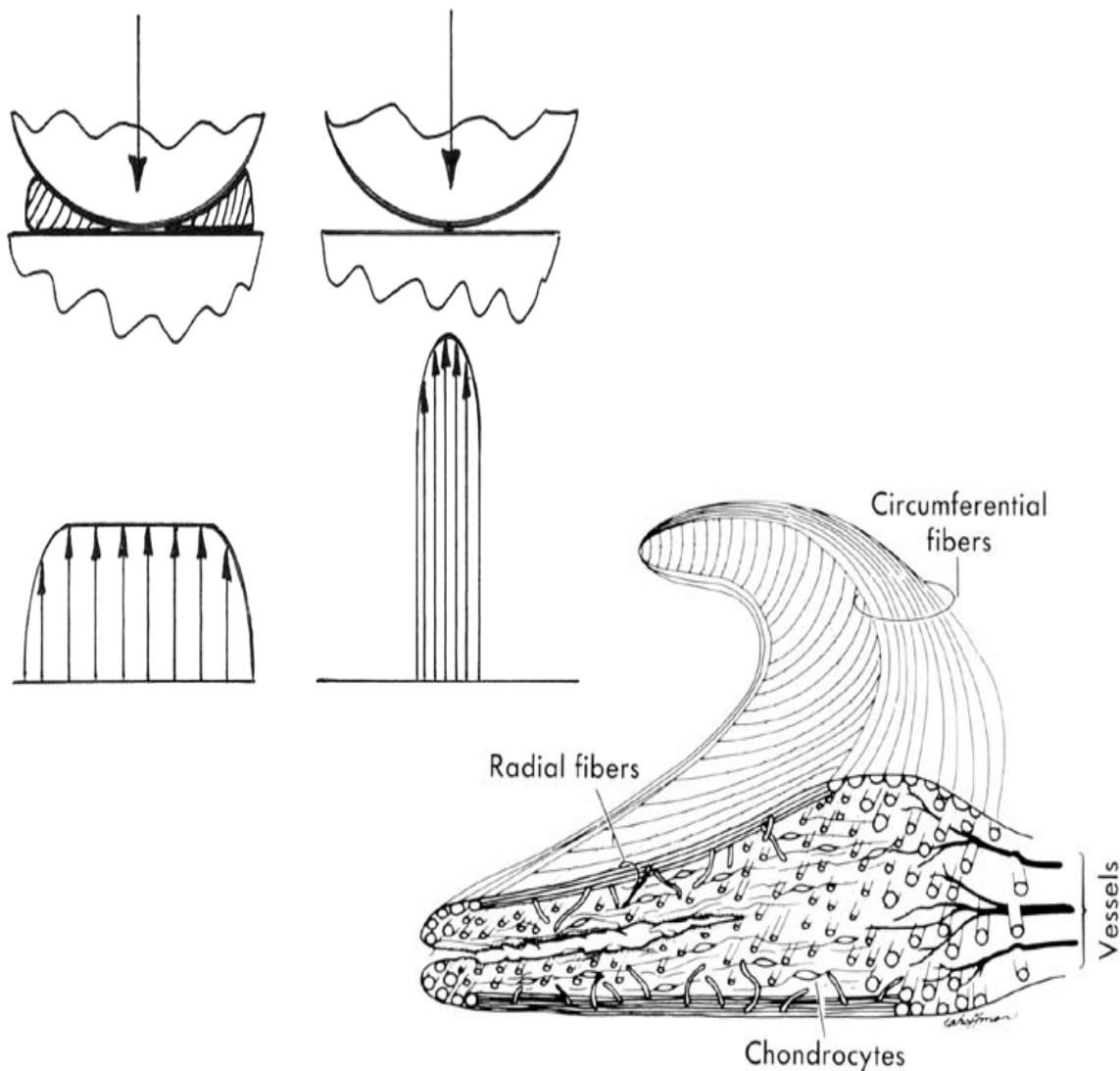
- Shock absorber within the knee
- Provide nutrition for articular cartilage
- Reduce friction during movement
- Increase stability & joint congruency – wedge analogy
- Limit extreme flexion and extension
- Proprioceptive function

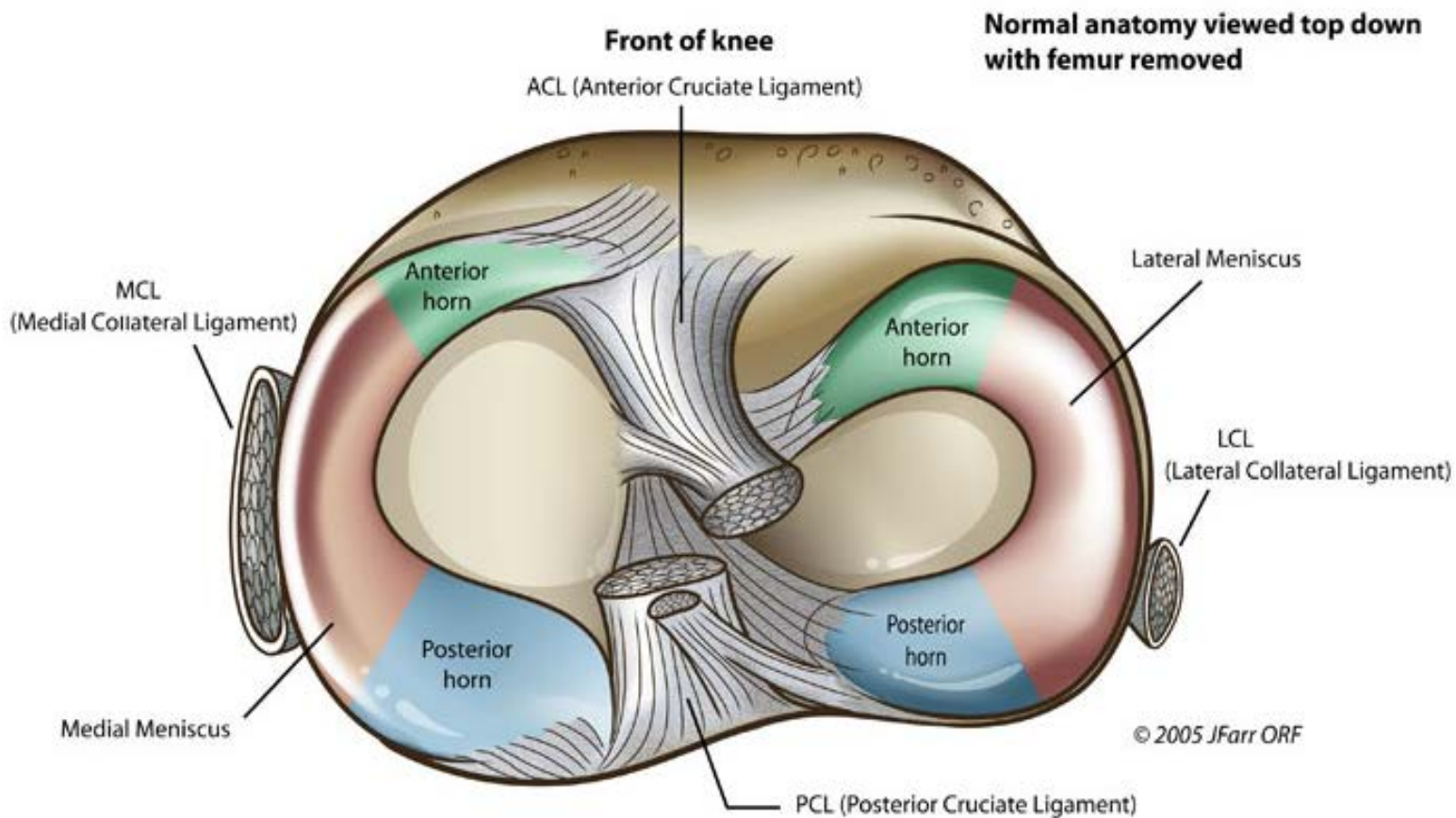


FUNCTION

The menisci have several functions:

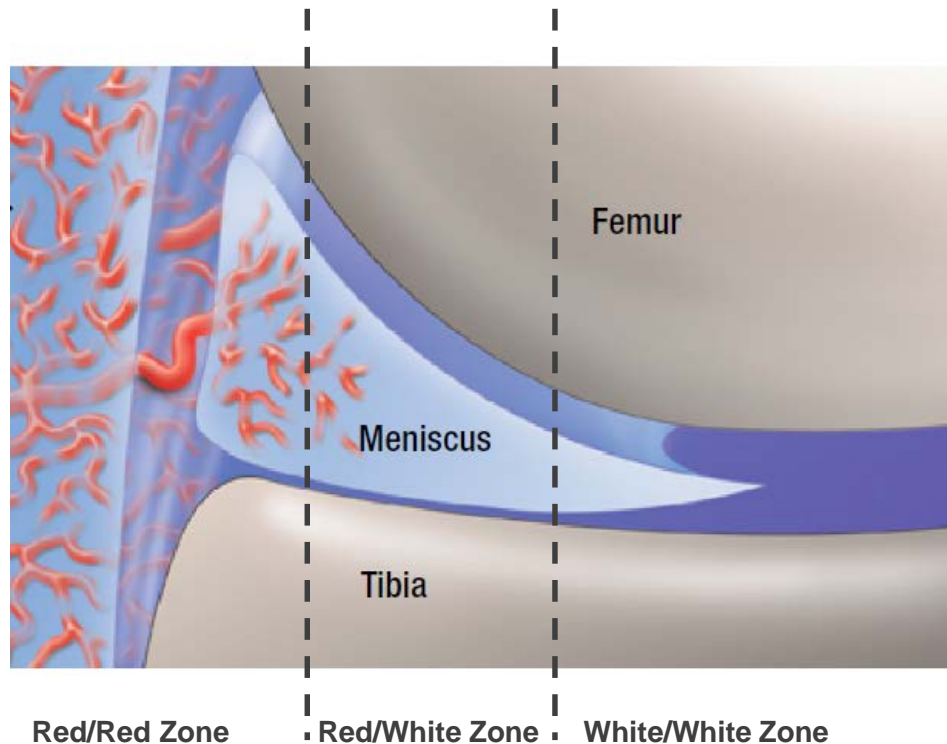
- Disperse load and reduce peak pressure
- Convert axial load into circumferential stress
- Menisci bear 40 to 50% of the total load transmitted across joint in extension
- 85% of the compressive load is transmitted through the menisci at 90 deg of flexion



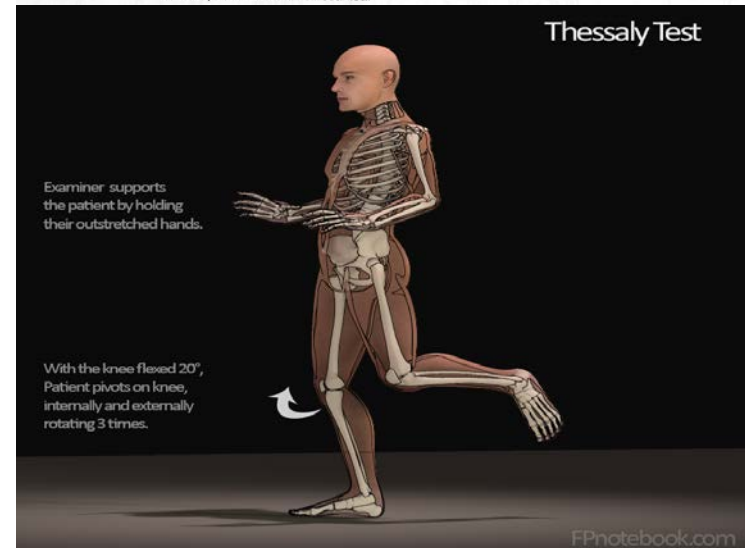
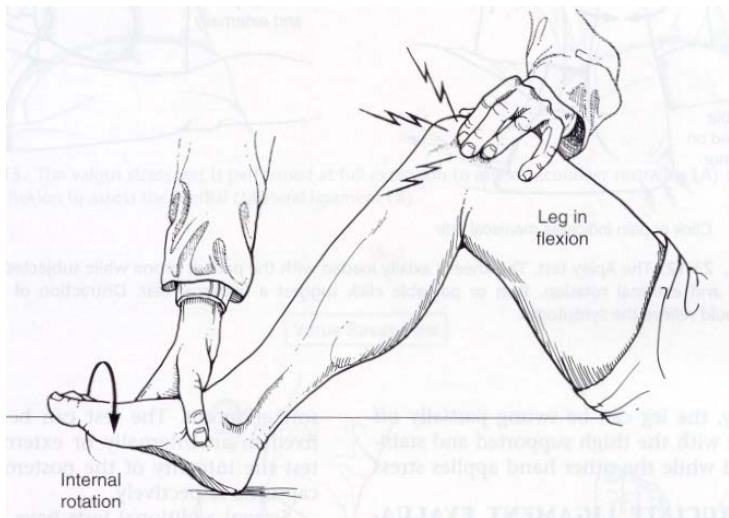
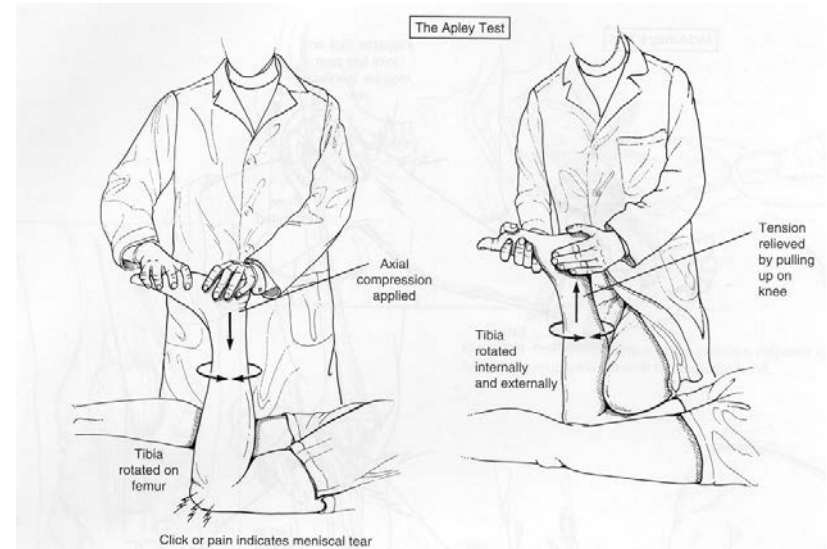
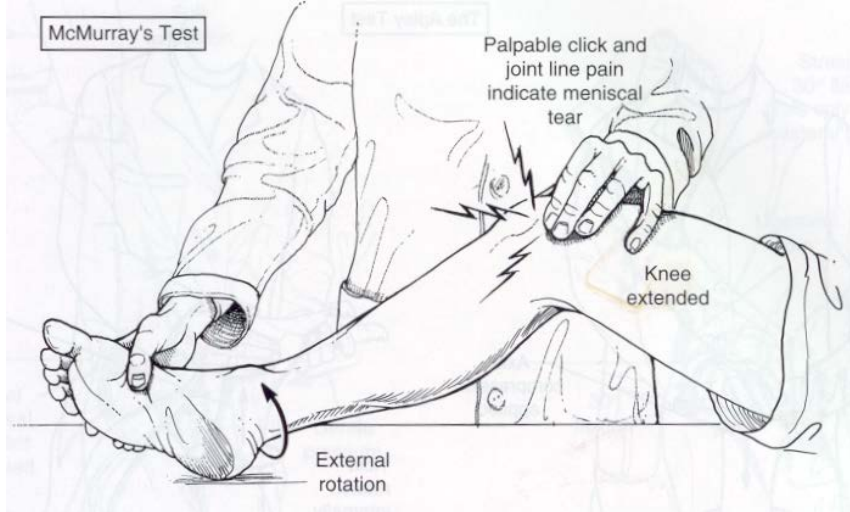


ZONES OF THE MENISCUS

- Tears at the outer edge (red-red zone) tend to heal well because there is a good blood supply
- The inner area (white-white zone) lacks a good blood supply and therefore does not heal well.
- The red-white zone is the transition zone from vascular to avascular zones



CLINICAL TESTS



CLINICAL SYMPTOMS OF A MENISCAL TEAR

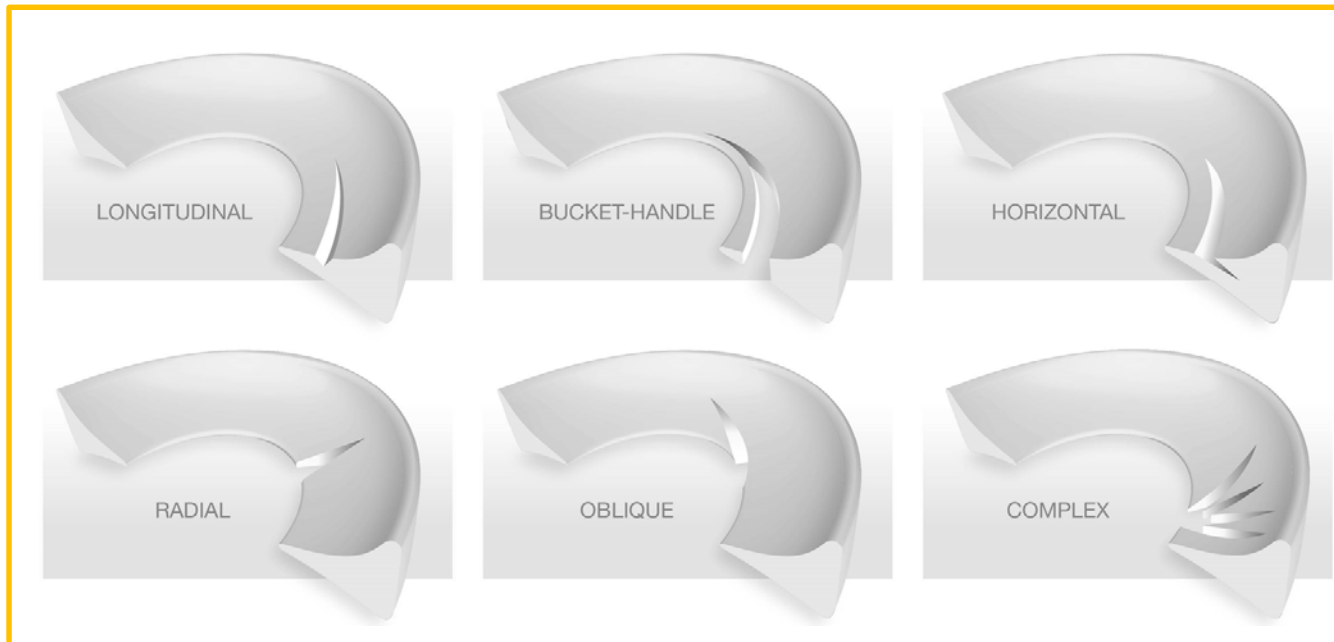
Symptoms of Meniscal tears include:

- Pain – can be severe (especially when twisting or rotating)
- Joint line tenderness (77-86% of patients with a meniscal tear)
- Effusion (~50% of patients presenting with a meniscal tear)
- Joint instability (loss of wedge effect)
- Difficulty in straightening knee fully
- Difficulty on deep knee bending
- Locking of the knee in partial flexion
- Popping sensation

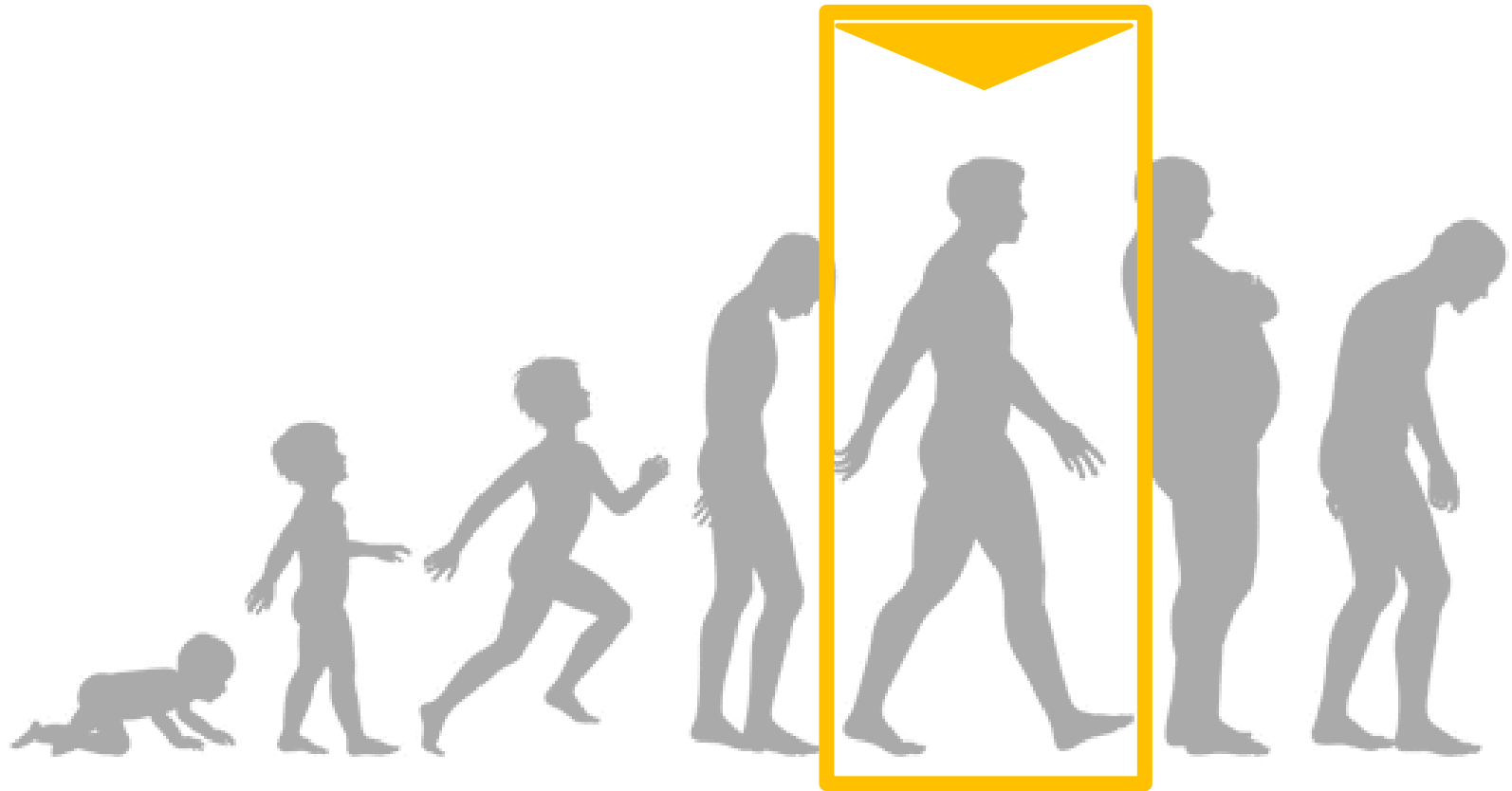
MENISCAL TEARS / LESIONS CLASSIFICATION

Acute/Traumatic

Degenerative



ACUTE/TRAUMATIC MENISCAL TEARS



ACUTE MENISCAL TEARS

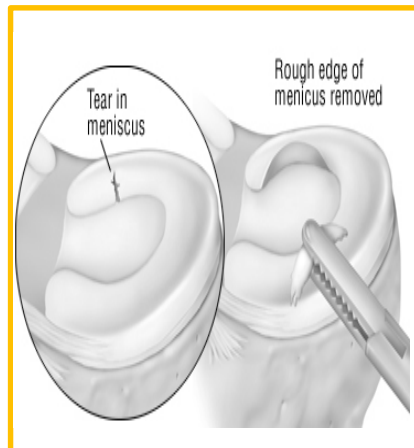
- Risk Factors:
 - Sports
 - ACL Injury
 - Acute
 - Time between ACL injury and reconstruction >12 month
 - Systemic joint laxity
 - Peak age 20-29 years
- Incidence:
 - 6:1000
 - 50% of knee injuries that require surgery

Condition/Risk Factor	OR (95% CI)
Acute meniscal tears	
Playing soccer (compared to nonsports participants for at least 12 mo prior to the onset of symptoms)	3.58 (1.87, 6.86)
Playing rugby (compared to nonsports participants for at least 12 mo prior to the onset of symptoms)	2.84 (1.48, 5.45)
Running (compared to nonsports participants for at least 12 mo prior to the onset of symptoms)	1.24 (0.74, 2.07)
Swimming (compared to nonsports participants for at least 12 mo prior to the onset of symptoms)	1.54 (1.09, 2.17)
Other sports (compared to nonsports participants for at least 12 mo prior to the onset of symptoms)	1.60 (1.17, 2.19)

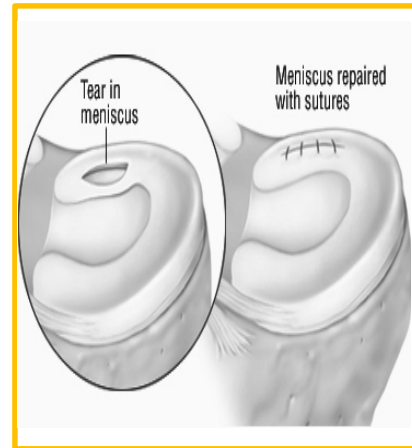
Snoeker et al. Risk Factors for Meniscal Tears: A Systematic Review Including Meta-analysis *J Orthop Sports Phys Ther* 2013;43(6):352-367
Metcalf MH, Barrett GR. Prospective evaluation of 1485 meniscal tear patterns in patients with stable knees. *Am J Sports Med* 2004;32:675–80. [Search PubMed](#)
Makris EA, Hadidi P, Athanasiou KA. The knee meniscus: structure-function, pathophysiology, current repair techniques, and prospects for regeneration. *Biomaterials* 2011;32:7411–31. [Search PubMed](#)
Garrett WE Jr, Swiontkowski MF, Weinstein JN, et al. American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery Practice of the Orthopaedic Surgeon: Part-II, certification examination case mix. *J Bone J Surg Am* 2006;88:660–7. [Search PubMed](#)

ACUTE MENISCAL TEAR - TREATMENT

- Treatment will depend on location/zone and type of tear = vascularity and healing potential
- Repair preferred if type, location and vascularity allow
 - “Save the Meniscus”
- Repairs usually require reduced WB (+/- ROM control)
 - Axial load is converted into circumferential stress
 - Weight bearing control is vital as the structural continuity of the fibres has been compromised



Partial
Meniscectomy



Meniscal
Repair



Meniscal
Transplantation

REHABILITATION AFTER MENISCAL REPAIR (EXAMPLE)

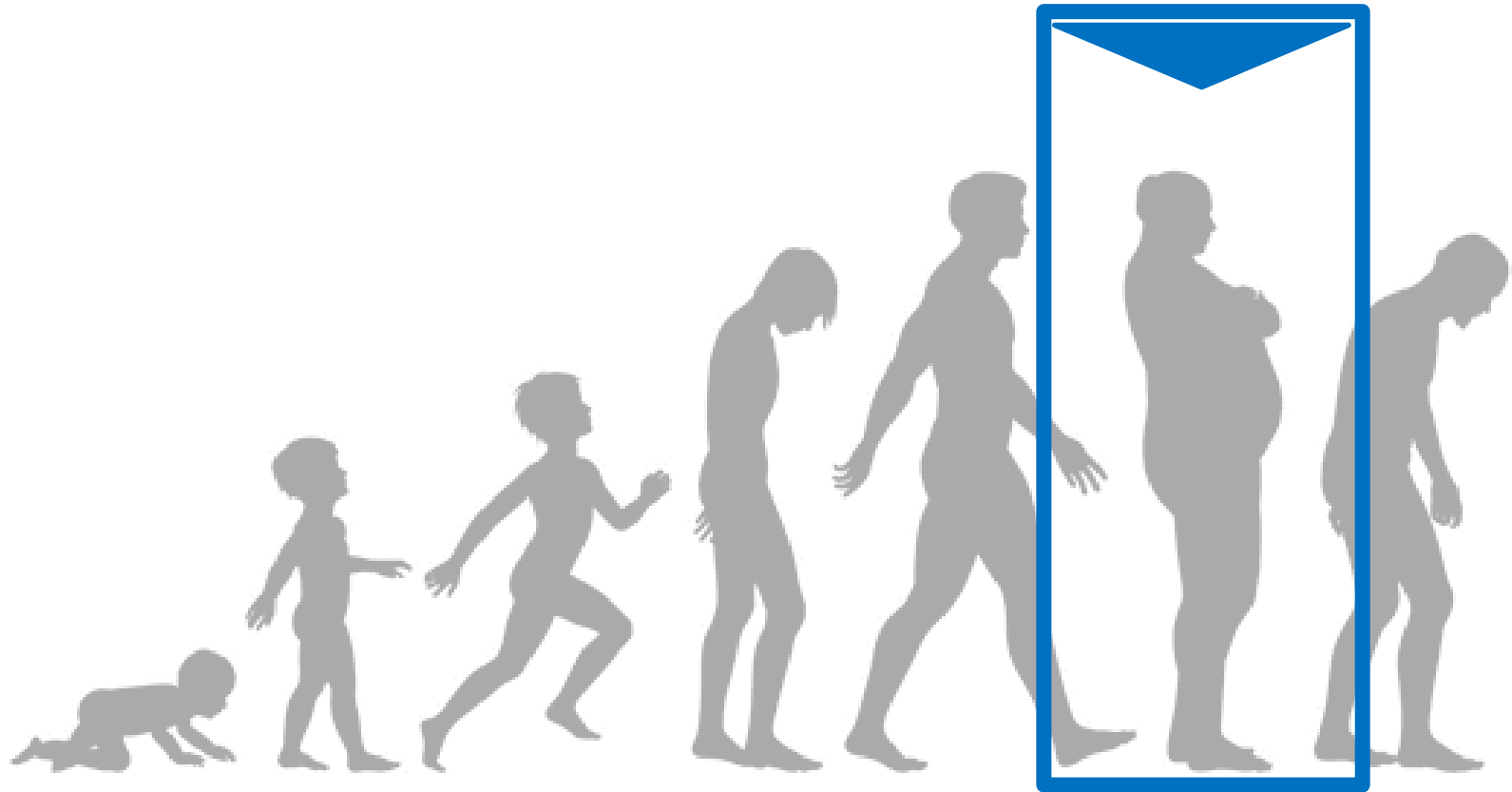
Item	Phase I (Week 0-6)	Phase II (Week 7-14)	Phase III Week 15-22)
Goal	Protect and allow maximal healing	Improve muscle strength to level of daily activities Restore ROM	Optimizing functional capability- prepare to go back to sports
WB	NWB → PWB → FWB <i>Except radial and complex tears</i>	FWB	FWB
ROM	0-0 0-60 or 0-90 - physio	free	free
Brace	Protection & ROM Limitation (d&n)	Protection while exercise levels are increasing (day)	Protection while training
Physiotherapy	RICE, regain quadriceps control,	Restore full ROM and normal gait	Sports-specific exercises, neuromuscular control

ACUTE TEARS - BRACING OPTIONS

- Meniscal Repair:
 - Protect repaired meniscus from axial load
 - +/-ROM
 - Protected weight bearing
 - Protect during activities
- Rebound Cartilage (ROM control and load reduction)
- Meniscectomy:
 - Maintain joint ROM and strength - physio
 - Modify load activities (protect/preserve joint)
 - Removal of meniscus increases load on articular cartilage
- Unloader One/Unloader Fit



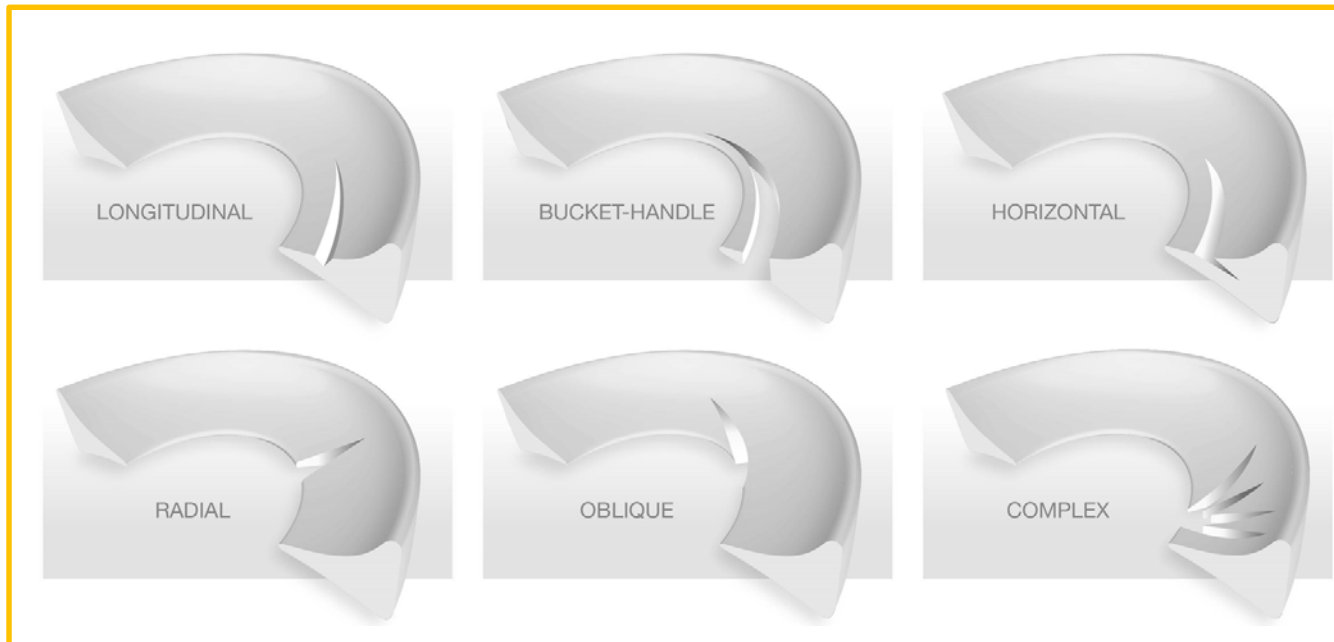
DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS



MENISCAL TEARS / LESIONS CLASSIFICATION

Acute/Traumatic

Degenerative



Definition:

- Complex tear pattern mainly in the posterior horn / mid-body following prolonged 'wear and tear'
- Degenerative tears are typically seen in middle aged or older people and often accompany knee osteoarthritis



- In isolation, degenerative meniscus is currently thought of as pre or early OA
- Pain occurs spontaneously or following trivial event
- Poor healing due to type and location of tear = white zone (avascular)

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS

Prevalence:

- 35% prevalence of degenerative meniscal tears in people over 50 years
- 60% in people of 65 years

FOCUS MARKETS	POPULATION						
			Degenerative Meniscal Tears*	Mild OA	Moderate OA	Severe OA	TKR
AMERICAS	355.291.465	19.896.322	11.256.504	4.867.493	4.405.614	3.517.386	781.119
EUROPE	180.810.746	10.125.402	9.453.243	2.477.107	2.242.053	1.790.026	295.181
AUSTRALIA	24.420.661	1.367.557	1.014.807	334.563	302.816	241.765	43.957
TOTAL	560.522.872	40.760.153	21.724.554	9.971.680	9.025.463	7.205.813	1.120.257

= 637,379

- Note: these are total numbers rather than symptomatic numbers

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS

Risk factors:

Condition/Risk Factor	OR (95% CI)
Degenerative meniscal tears	
Age (>60 y compared to <60 y)	2.32 (1.80, 3.01)
Gender (male compared to female)	2.98 (2.30, 3.85)
Work-related kneeling and squatting (>1 h compared to <1 h per d)	2.69 (1.64, 4.40)
Sitting (>2 h compared to <2 h per d)	0.68 (0.50, 0.92)
Driving (>4 h compared to <4 h per d)	1.37 (0.94, 1.98)
Standing or walking (>2 h compared to <2 h per d)	
Walking (>2 mi compared to <2 mi per d)	1.65 (1.22, 2.24)
Stair climbing (>30 flights compared to <30 flights per d)	2.28 (1.56, 3.31)
Lifting or carrying >10 kg (more than 10 times per wk)	1.89 (1.41, 2.55)
Lifting or carrying >25 kg (more than 10 times per wk)	1.58 (1.15, 2.16)



DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS

SYMPTOMS

Non specific symptoms

- Initially:
 - Pain
 - Locking/pseudo locking (acute block to knee extension)
 - Catching sensation
- Ongoing
 - Pain
 - Swelling
 - Clicking
 - Popping
 - Instability

Severity of pain: VAS 4-6

1Lange AK, Fiatarone Singh MA, Smith RM, Foroughi N, Baker MK, Shnier R, Vanwanseele B. Degenerative meniscus tears and mobility impairment in women with knee osteoarthritis. *Osteoarthritis Cartilage* 2007

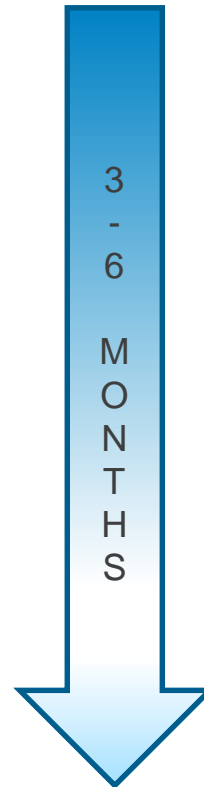
Meniscus tears shown to result in decreased walking endurance and balance performance¹

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS TREATMENT

Conservative Treatment

- Pain relief
 - NSAID
 - Limit activities
 - Keep mobility- prevent stiffness
- Physio+ Exercise
 - Keep ROM
 - Strengthen muscles
 - Improve proprioception

Reduce Pain – Improve
Function



Surgical Treatment

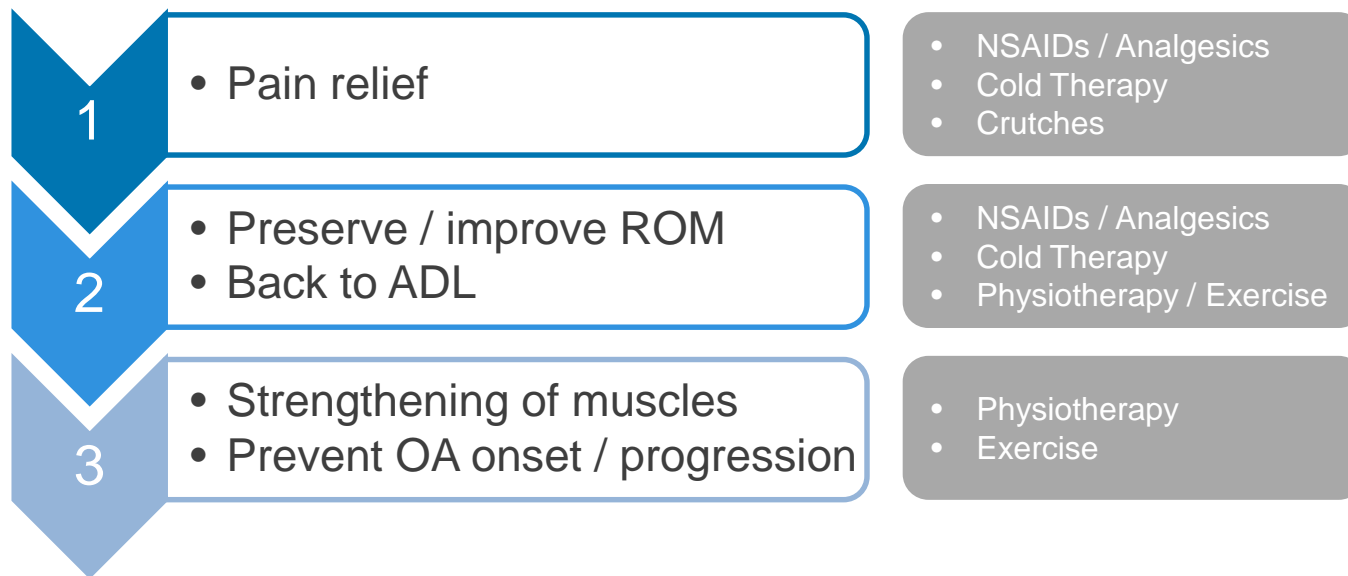
- Surgery:
 - Debridement of unstable meniscal tear
 - Removal of loose bodies
 - ~700.000 procedures/year in US
- Rehabilitation:
 - bicycling, resisted quadriceps exercises, and squats

Reduce Pain – Improve
Function

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS

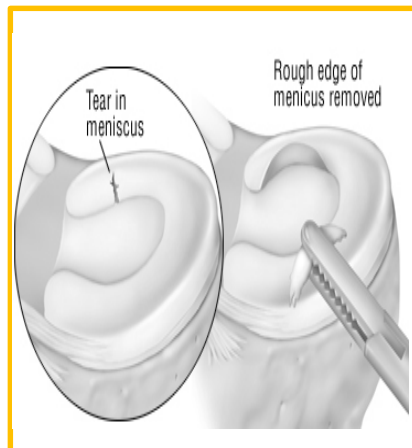
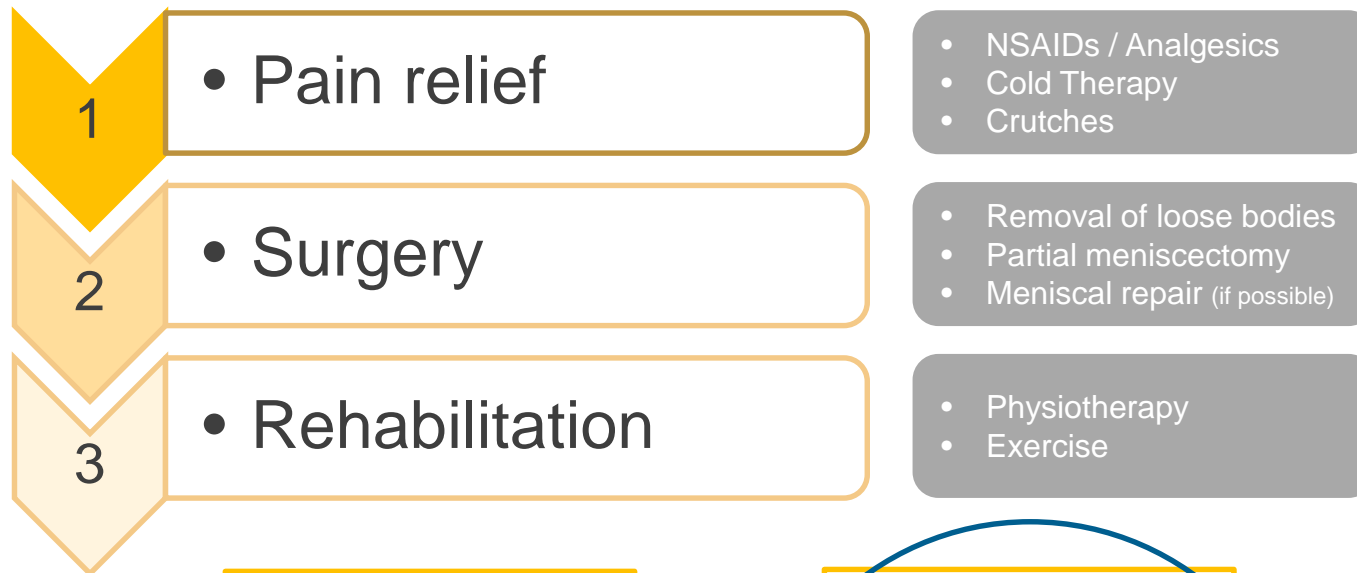
CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT

- Treatment overview

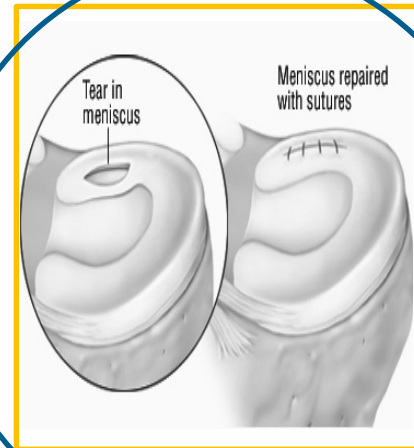


DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS

SURGICAL TREATMENT



Partial
Meniscectomy



Meniscal
Repair

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS - TREATMENT

Conservative

Arthroscopy



Osteoarthritis and Cartilage xxx (2016) 1–7

Osteoarthritis and Cartilage

OARS OSTEOARTHRITIS RESEARCH SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Increased risk for knee replacement surgery after arthroscopic surgery for degenerative meniscal tears: a multi-center longitudinal observational study using data from the osteoarthritis initiative

J.J. Rongen †, M.M. Rovers ‡, T.G. van Tienen §, P. Buma †, G. Hannink ||



■ KNEE

The role for arthroscopic partial meniscectomy in knees with degenerative changes

A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

J. D. Lamplot,
R. H. Brophy

Aims
Patients with osteoarthritis of the knee commonly have degenerative meniscal tears. Arthroscopic meniscectomy is frequently performed, although the benefits are debatable.

Fairbank T.J. JBJS 1949

KNEE JOINT CHANGES AFTER MENISCECTOMY

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

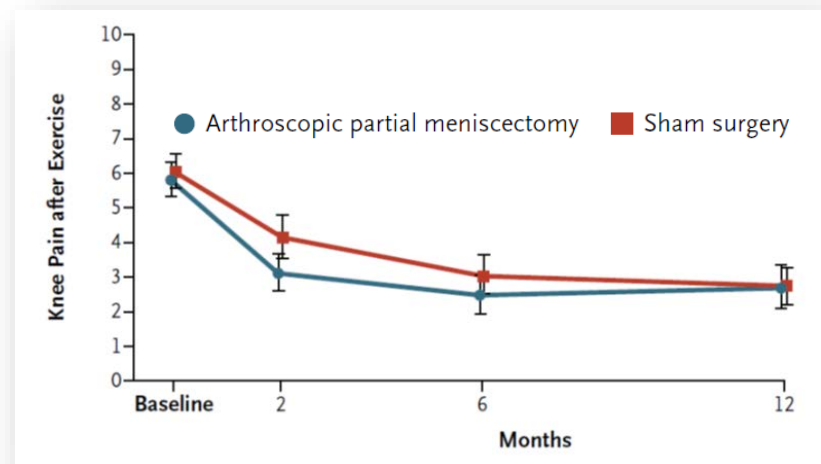
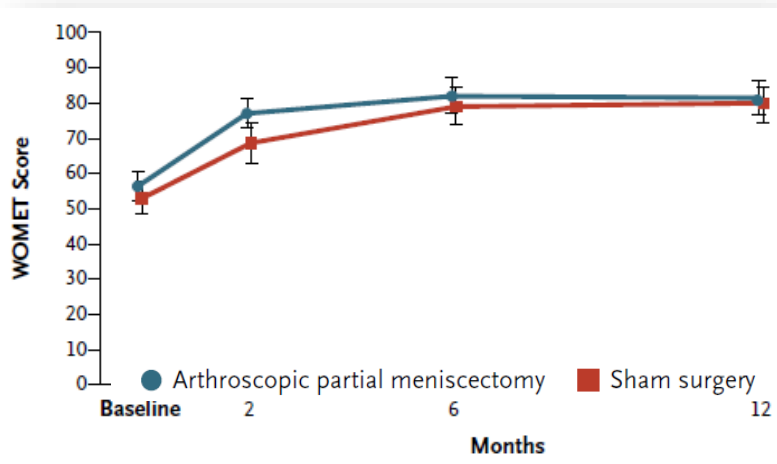
Changes in the knee joint after meniscectomy include ridge formation, narrowing of the joint space, and flattening of the femoral condyle. Investigations suggest that these changes are due to loss of the weight-bearing function of the meniscus. Meniscectomy is not wholly innocuous; it interferes, at least temporarily, with the mechanics of the joint. It seems likely that narrowing of the joint space will predispose to early degenerative changes, but a connection between these appearances and later osteoarthritis is not yet established and is too indefinite to justify clinical deductions.

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS - TREATMENT

Arthroscopic Partial Meniscectomy versus Sham Surgery for a Degenerative Meniscal Tear

Raine Sihvonen, M.D., Mika Paavola, M.D., Ph.D., Antti Malmivaara, M.D., Ph.D., Ari Itälä, M.D., Ph.D., Antti Joukainen, M.D., Ph.D., Heikki Nurmi, M.D., Juha Kalske, M.D., and Teppo L.N. Järvinen, M.D., Ph.D., for the Finnish Degenerative Meniscal Lesion Study (FIDELITY) Group

In conclusion, the results of this randomized, sham-controlled trial show that arthroscopic partial medial meniscectomy provides no significant benefit over sham surgery in patients with a degenerative meniscal tear and no knee osteoarthritis. These results argue against the current practice of performing arthroscopic partial meniscectomy in patients with a degenerative meniscal tear.



The American Journal of Sports Medicine

The Urgent Need for Evidence in Arthroscopic Meniscal Surgery: A Systematic Review of the Evidence for Operative Management of Meniscal Tears

Paul Monk, Patrick Garfield Roberts, Antony J.R. Palmer, Lee Bayliss, Reza Mafi, David Beard, Sally Hopewell and
Andrew Price

Am J Sports Med published online July 18, 2016

Results: ... No difference was found between arthroscopic meniscal debridement compared with nonoperative management as a first-line treatment strategy for patients with knee pain and a degenerative meniscal tear. Some evidence was found to indicate that patients with resistant mechanical symptoms who initially fail non-operative management may benefit from meniscal debridement

PARTIAL MENISCECTOMY - TREATMENT OUTCOMES

- What else does the evidence suggest?
 - A randomized trial showed that arthroscopic partial meniscectomy combined with physical therapy provides no better relief of symptoms than physical therapy alone in patients with a meniscal tear and knee osteoarthritis¹
 - Partial meniscectomy is associated with increased risk of incidental radiographic osteoarthritis and worsening cartilage damage in the following year²
 - In patients with knee osteoarthritis, arthroscopic knee surgery with meniscectomy is associated with a three fold increase in the risk for future knee replacement surgery³
 - Partial meniscectomy patients had a significant loss of knee joint position sense/proprioception at knee flexion angles of 60 and 75°. ⁴
 - Patients with symptomatic meniscal tears and degenerative changes in the knee can benefit from arthroscopic meniscectomy, particularly if the osteoarthritis is mild⁵

1 Katz JN, Brophy RH, Chaisson CE, et al. Surgery versus physical therapy for a meniscal tear and osteoarthritis. N Engl J Med 2013;368:1675-84

2 Roemer FW, Kwok CK, Hannon MJ, Hunter DJ, Eckstein F, Grago J, Boudreau RM, Englund M, Guermazi A. Partial meniscectomy is associated with increased risk of incident radiographic osteoarthritis and worsening cartilage damage in the following year. Eur Radiol. 2016 Apr 27. [Epub ahead of print]

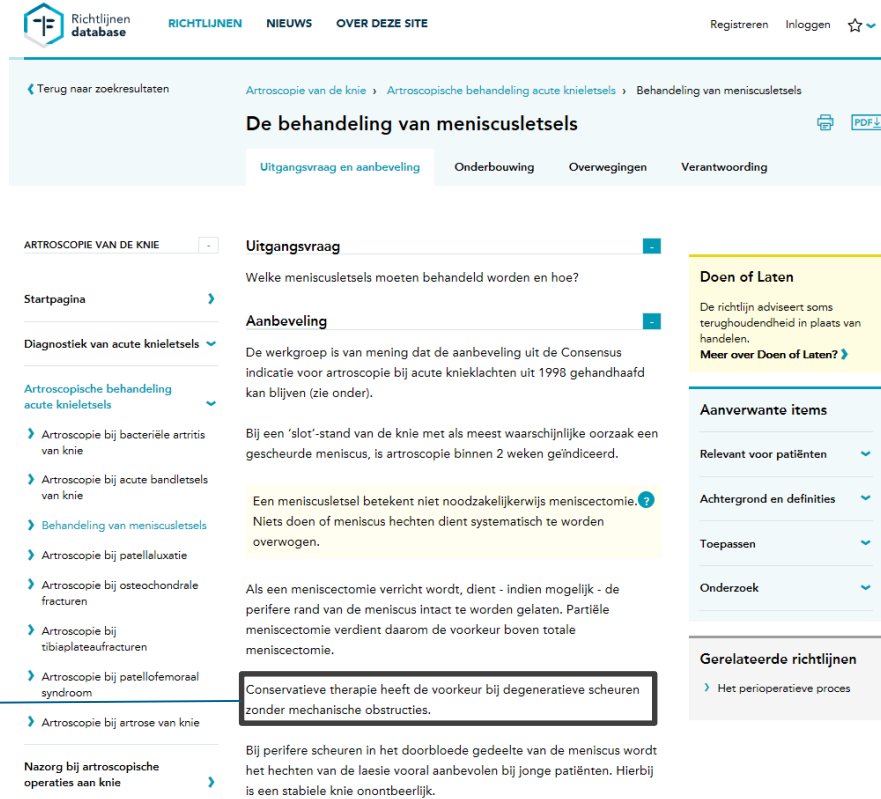
3 J.J. Rongen et al. Increased risk for knee replacement surgery after arthroscopic surgery for degenerative meniscal tears: a multi-center longitudinal observational study using data from the osteoarthritis initiative. Osteoarthritis and Cartilage xxx (2016) 1-7 [Epub ahead of print]

4 Karahan M, Kocaoglu B, et al. Effect of partial medial meniscectomy on the proprioceptive function of the knee. Arch Orthop Trauma Surg. 2010 Mar;130(3):427-31. Epub 2009 Dec 10.

5 Lamplot JD and Brophy RH The role for arthroscopic partial meniscectomy in knees with degenerative changes – a systematic review THE BONE & JOINT JOURNAL VOL. 98-B, No. 7, JULY 2016

Meniscus Guidelines

Dutch Orthopaedic Society



Richtlijnen database RICHTLIJNEN NIEUWS OVER DEZE SITE Registreren Inloggen ☆

← Terug naar zoekresultaten Artroscopie van de knie > Artroscopische behandeling acute knieletsels > Behandeling van meniscusletsels

De behandeling van meniscusletsels

Uitgangsvraag en aanbeveling Onderbouwing Overwegingen Verantwoording

ARTROSCOPIE VAN DE KNIE

Startpagina

Diagnostiek van acute knieletsels

Artroscopische behandeling acute knieletsels

- Artroscopie bij bacteriële artritis van knie
- Artroscopie bij acute bandletsels van knie
- Behandeling van meniscusletsels
- Artroscopie bij patellaluxatie
- Artroscopie bij osteochondrale fracturen
- Artroscopie bij tibiaplateaufracturen
- Artroscopie bij patellofemorale syndroom
- Artroscopie bij artrose van knie

Nazorg bij artroscopische operaties aan knie

Uitgangsvraag

Welke meniscusletsels moeten behandeld worden en hoe?

Aanbeveling

De werkgroep is van mening dat de aanbeveling uit de Consensus indicatie voor artroscopie bij acute knieklachten uit 1998 gehandhaafd kan blijven (zie onder).

Bij een "slot"-stand van de knie met als meest waarschijnlijke oorzaak een gescheurde meniscus, is artroscopie binnen 2 weken geïndiceerd.

Een meniscusletsel betekent niet noodzakelijkerwijs meniscectomie. Niets doen of meniscus hechten dient systematisch te worden overwogen.

Als een meniscectomie verricht wordt, dient - indien mogelijk - de perifere rand van de meniscus intact te worden gelaten. Partiële meniscectomie verdient daarom de voorkeur boven totale meniscectomie.

Conservatieve therapie heeft de voorkeur bij degeneratieve scheuren zonder mechanische obstructies.

Bij perifere scheuren in het doorbloede gedeelte van de meniscus wordt het hechten van de laesie vooral aanbevolen bij jonge patiënten. Hierbij is een stabiele knie onontbeerlijk.

Doen of Laten

De richtlijn adviseert soms terughoudendheid in plaats van handelen.
[Meer over Doen of Laten?](#)

Aanverwante items

- Relevant voor patiënten
- Achtergrond en definities
- Toepassen
- Onderzoek

Gerelateerde richtlijnen

- Het perioperatieve proces

Conservative treatment preferred with degenerative meniscal tears

Knee Arthroscopy

statement from the British Orthopaedic Association



BOA/BASK response to media reports regarding knee arthroscopy

- A knee with no arthritis and an acute meniscus tear causing pain for more than six weeks (often without locking or giving way) will not settle with watchful waiting, pain killers, exercise or physiotherapy. It would be correct to offer knee arthroscopy to this group of patients regardless of their age.
- Patients with advanced bone on bone arthritis should not generally be treated with arthroscopy. They need conservative treatment and when that is no longer efficacious, joint replacement is often appropriately advised.
- The grey area is the patient with some degree of arthritis but with acute on chronic pain and evidence of mechanical symptoms due to a meniscus tear. The decision on whether to operate in that circumstance is a finely balanced clinical decision. Some patients benefit and some do not.

The patient may well not be in severe enough pain for a joint replacement so apart from a steroid injection, weight loss, analgesics and modification of lifestyle (again primary care interventions), a knee arthroscopy would be the next step.

Any operation, including arthroscopy, is not without a degree of risk and it should not be recommended lightly. Informed consent, discussing risks and benefits, always need to be discussed with the patient and the decision to do a knee arthroscopy is a joint process

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS – AUST KNEE SOCIETY POSITION STATEMENT



- [Position Statement from the Australian Knee Society on Arthroscopic Surgery of the Knee, including reference to the presence of Osteoarthritis or Degenerative Joint Disease](#) – October 2016
- Arthroscopic debridement, and / or lavage, has been shown to have no beneficial effect on the natural history of osteoarthritis, nor is it indicated as a primary treatment in the management of osteoarthritis. However, this does not preclude the judicious use of arthroscopic surgery, when indicated, to manage symptomatic coexisting pathology, in the presence of osteoarthritis or degeneration. *Partial medial meniscectomy is not indicated as an initial treatment for atraumatic tears of degenerative menisci*, excluding bucket handle tears and surgeon assessed locked or locking knees.

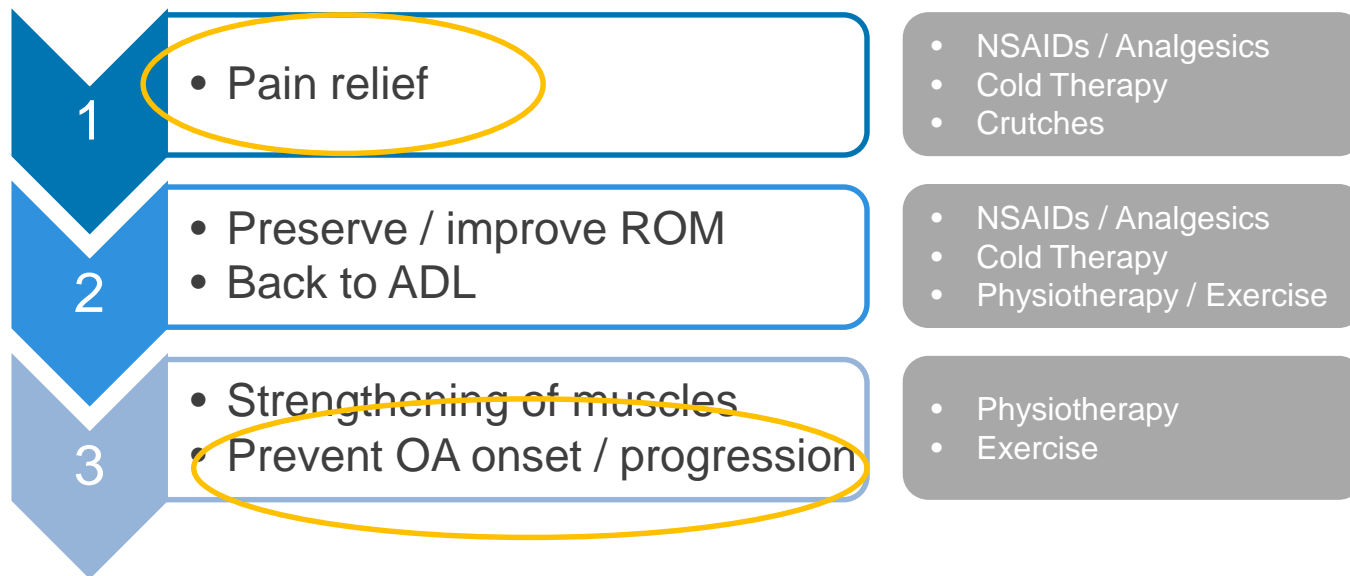
[PDF Document](#)

<http://www.kneesociety.org.au/documents.html>

DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS

CONSERVATIVE TREATMENT

- Treatment overview

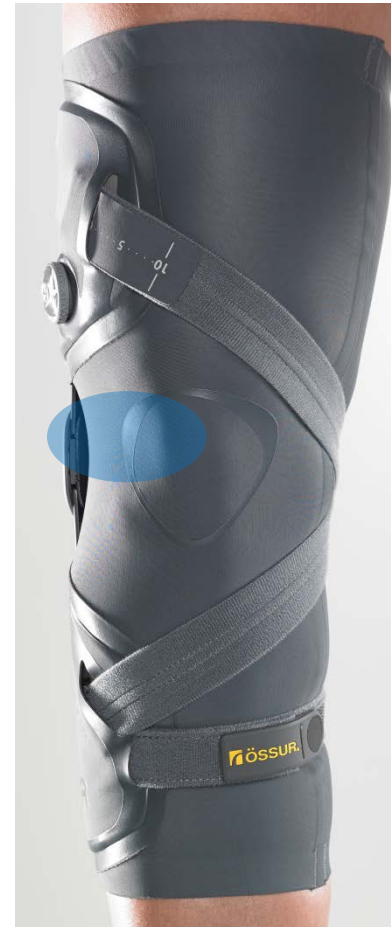


DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS – BRACING SOLUTION

UNLOADER

Össur's Unloader Braces

3-points of Leverage
DFS Straps & Thigh/Calf shells
Active unloading and even
distribution of forces
resulting in reduced pain





CLINICAL EVIDENCE – DEGENERATIVE MENISCUS

Objective:

- Evaluating the effects of an unloading brace on patients with degenerative meniscal tears with regards to function and pain

Method:

- Uncontrolled prospective trial with 14 subjects presenting with degenerative meniscus tear, confirmed by MRI
- Assessment at baseline prior to brace fitting and after 1 month, and 2 months of brace use via electronically administered questionnaires consisting of WOMET (Western Ontario Meniscal Evaluation Tool) questionnaire, and VAS pain scales
- VAS pain was measured at rest and before and after performing set activities (walking, stair climbing, and one-legged sitting) with and without the brace.

Inclusion criteria:

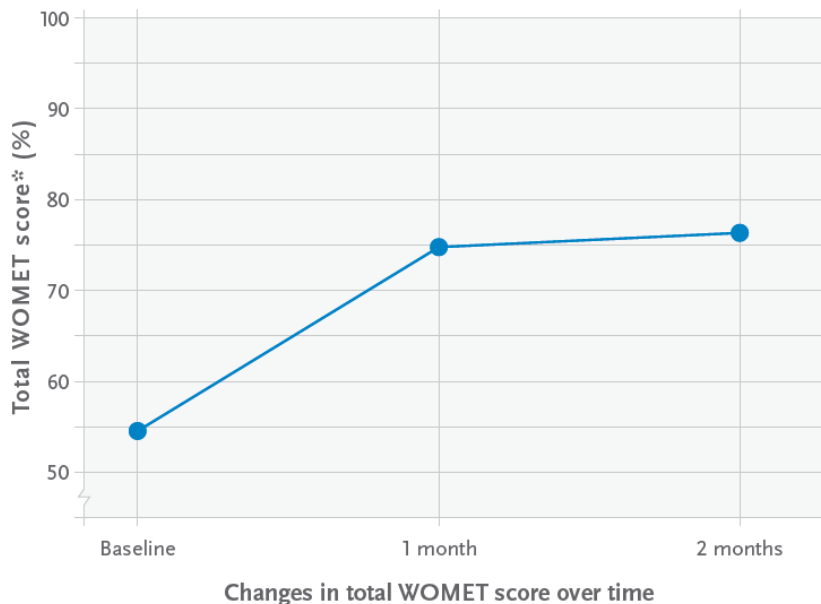
- Age: 35 – 65 years
- medial joint line pain, pain that can be provoked by palpation or compression of the joint line or positive McMurray, and a degenerative tear of medial meniscus identified on a clinically indicated MRI within 3 months prior to enrolment

Exclusion criteria:

- Radiological K&L grade II osteoarthritis or greater
- Symptoms of knee OA as clinically defined by the American College of Rheumatology (ACR)
- Trauma induced onset of symptoms, previous or concomitant ligament injuries to the knee, locking or painful snapping of knee, MRI signs of pathology requiring surgery, the decision to have surgery for the tear within 6 months of enrolment, and other health conditions, body size or diseases that preclude the patient from applying the brace or moving around with it.

DEGENERATIVE MENISCUS – IMPROVED QOL - WOMET

From inhouse study: Individuals with radiographically diagnosed degenerative meniscus



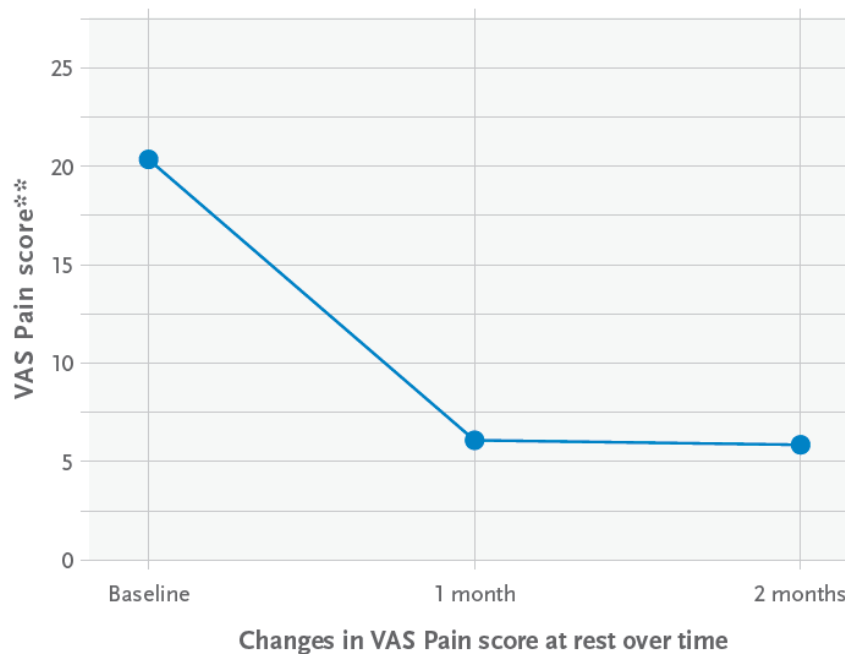
*The total WOMET score has been converted to a percentage where 100% represents a healthy joint with no problems and 0 worst imaginable symptoms.

- WOMET (Western Ontario Meniscal Evaluation Tool) is a meniscus injury specific questionnaire measuring Health related Quality of Life.
- The total WOMET improved with a mean of 22 percentage point (MCID 15)

= *confirmed improvement of Quality of Life*

DEGENERATIVE MENISCUS – PAIN REDUCTION – VAS

From inhouse study: Individuals with radiographically diagnosed degenerative meniscus



**A VAS Pain score of 100 is "the worst imaginable pain" and 0 is "no pain".

- The VAS pain score measurement at rest reached statistically significant change from baseline to 2 months ($p < 0.001$) with a mean reduction of 14.56

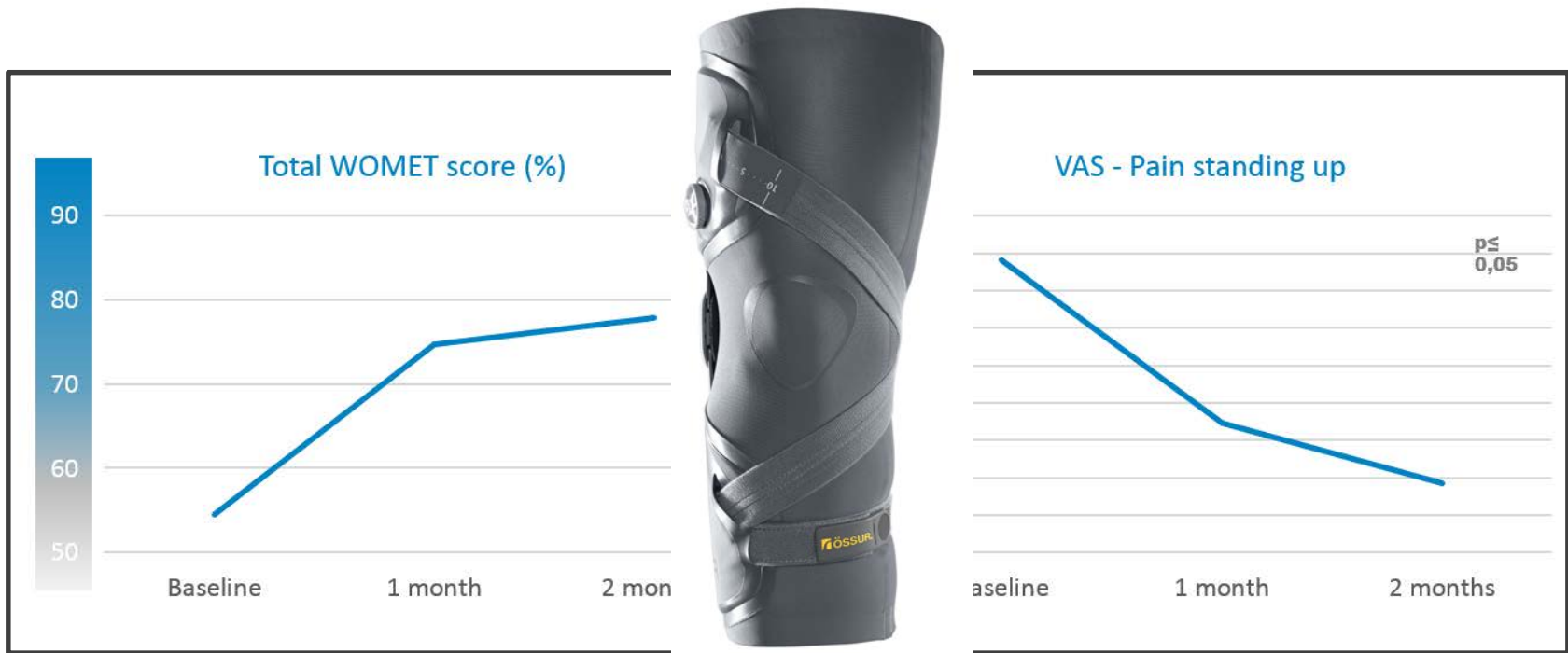
= confirmed pain reduction

VAS score was measured on a scale ranging from 0 to 100. 0 indicates no pain and 100 worst imaginable pain

UNLOADER FIT

EFFECTIVE SOLUTION FOR DEGENERATIVE MENISCAL TEARS

- Source: Össur HF – data on file

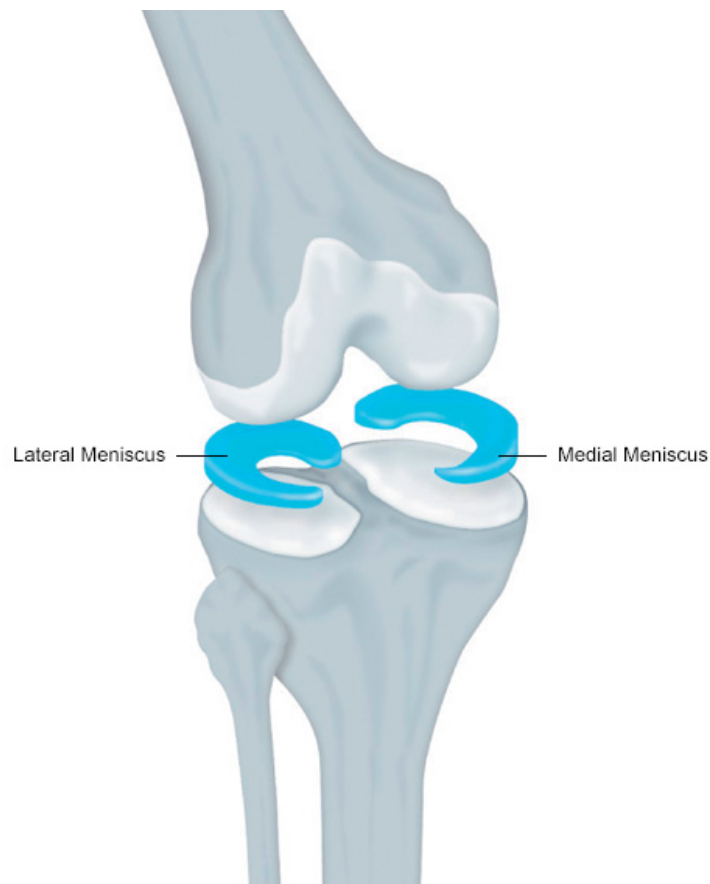


= confirmed improvement of Quality of Life

= confirmed pain reduction

- The Unloader Fit is an effective treatment option for patients with degenerative meniscus tears without locking/blocking.

- Loss of meniscus (following degeneration or meniscectomy) results in:
 - Loss of shock absorbency
 - Increased coefficient of joint friction
 - Reduced joint stability
 - Disrupted joint homeostasis
- Above are all contributing factors to degenerative joint disease/OA



UNLOADER

INDICATIONS

Össur's Unloader braces (Unloader One/Unloader Fit) are indicated for:

- Degenerative Meniscus
 - And/Or
- Mild to Severe unicompartmental knee OA
 - Unloader Fit (Mild-Moderate)
 - Unloader One (Mild to Severe)



RADIOGRAPHIC GRADING OF OA

(Kellgren & Lawrence 1957)



Grade	Narrowing of Joint Space	Osteophytes	Sclerosis	Deformation of Joint Contour
0	None	None	None	None
1	Doubtful	Possible	None	None
2	Possible	Definite	None	None
3	Definite	Moderate/Multiple	Present	Possible
4	Marked	Large	Severe	Definite

- Meta analysis; Pollo FE et al; J of AAOS, 14:5-11, 2006.
Validates the Unloader brace design & reveals that knee bracing for OA effectively relieves pain and improves function.
- Prospective RCT; Pollo FE et al; Am J Spts Med, 30(3): 414-421, 2002.
Adjustable valgus bracing (Unloader) reduced pain and improved function in patients with medial OA.
- Prospective RCT; Hillstrom et. al; Gait & Posture, 11(2):170-171, 2000.
Valgus bracing with Unloader and neutral position foot orthoses, significantly reduces pain and improves lower extremity biomechanics in patients with varus knee OA.

- Prospective RCT. Kirkley A, et al; JBJS, 81(4): 539-547, 1999.
Patients with varus OA experience a decrease in pain and improvement in disease specific quality of life with the use of an Unloader brace.
- Prospective RCT. Horlick SG, et al; J of Spts Med, 3:251-255, 1993.
Valgus bracing (Unloader) reduces pain and improves function in patients with medial OA.
Can be a useful treatment modality to delay surgery

<http://www.ossur.com.au/oa-solutions/research>

- Briggs 2012

Improvement in Quality of Life with Use of an Unloader Knee Brace in Active Patients with OA: A Prospective Cohort Study

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J Knee Surg

- Patients had significant improvement in quality of life (SF-12) ($p < 0.05$).
- Patients saw improvement in SF-12 physical component
- There was significant improvement in pain, stiffness, and function (WOMAC) ($p < 0.05$).
- Patients demonstrated a significant decrease in pain and disability.

MENISCAL TEARS - TREATMENT SUMMARY

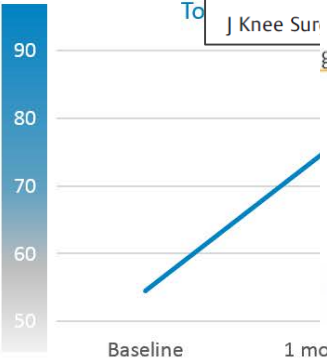
- Treatment of degenerative meniscal tears can be approached conservatively or surgically
 - Current data suggest that the majority of the patients can be successfully treated without surgery
 - Patients who show mechanical symptoms (blocking/ locking) of the knee shall be considered for surgical treatment (mensicectomy)
- Using Ossur's Unloader braces to support rehabilitation of degenerative meniscal tears:
 - Reduces pain and improves QoL (conservative - 2016 Ossur study)
 - Prevent/slow OA onset/progression (conservative or surgical) by offsetting associated increases in peak pressures (i.e. Unloading affected compartment)
- Ossur's Unloader One and Unloader Fit are also clinically proven for the conservative management of uni-compartmental knee OA (for which meniscal injuries are a pre-cursor)

SUMMARY

KNEE OSTEOARTHRITIS	
FOCUS MARKETS	POPULATION
AMERICAS	
EUROPE	
AUSTRALIA	
TOTAL	

Improving Unloader A Product

Karen K. ...
 1 The Stead ... Colorado ...
 2 Clinical Re ... Institute, ...
 To ... J Knee Sur ...



	119
	181
	957
	257

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 d, Sally Hopewell and

CONTACT DETAILS



- Contact your local Ossur staff member to find out more and arrange a product demonstration
- If you have any additional questions:
- Chris Wallis - cwallis@ossur.com



WE IMPROVE PEOPLE'S MOBILITY

