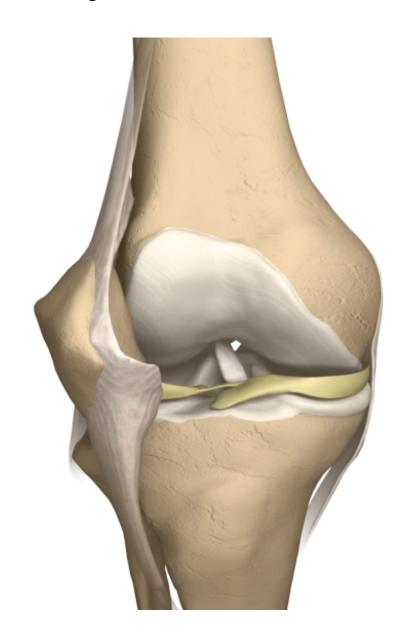


Articular Cartilage Problems - Removal of Damaged Cartilage

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.



ORTHOPEDIC SPECIALIST



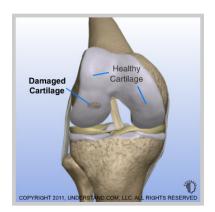


Introduction - Removal of Damaged Cartilage

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Doctor's Personal Note: A Message From Dr. Pevny

Thank you for visiting my website and viewing the 3D Animation Library. These animations should assist you in better understanding your condition or procedure. I look forward to answering any additional questions you may have. Please make an appointment by calling (970) 544-1289.



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.

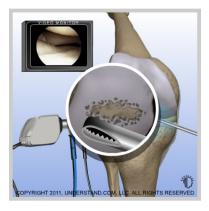






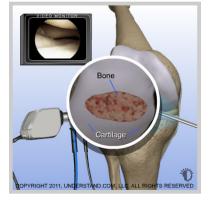
Visualization

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.

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End of Procedure

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