

Arthroscopy Knee (Surgical), with Meniscectomy or Meniscus Repair (*27332, *27333, *29882, *29883)

Blue Care Network provides coverage for surgical knee arthroscopy for adult members who meet medical necessity criteria. Submit prior authorization requests through e-referral. The submitter will receive a prompt to complete a questionnaire to determine the appropriateness of the requested service. The questions are listed below. If all questions are answered, e-referral will either approve or pend the case. If the case pends and BCN cannot authorize it, BCN will contact the provider for additional clinical information. Authorization is not a guarantee of payment. Payment is based on established claim edits. Compliance with this prior auth service will be monitored retrospectively.

Code	Description	
*27332	Arthrotomy, with excision of semilunar cartilage (meniscectomy) knee; medial OR lateral	
*27333	Arthrotomy, with excision of semilunar cartilage (meniscectomy) knee; medial AND lateral	
*29879	Arthroscopy, knee, surgical; abrasion arthroplasty (includes chondroplasty where necessary) or multiple drilling or microfracture	
*29880	Arthroscopy, knee, surgical; with meniscectomy (medial AND lateral, including any meniscal shaving) including debridement/shaving of articular cartilage (chondroplasty), same or separate compartment(s), when performed	
*29881	Arthroscopy, knee, surgical; with meniscectomy (medial OR lateral, including any meniscal shaving) including debridement/shaving of articular cartilage (chondroplasty), same or separate compartment(s), when performed	
*29882	Arthroscopy, knee, surgical; with meniscus repair (medial OR lateral)	
*29883	Arthroscopy, knee, surgical; with meniscus repair (medial AND lateral)	
1.	If the patient less than 18 years of age, select "yes" and submit the request without completing the rest of the questionnaire.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, < 18 years <input type="checkbox"/> No, 18 years or older
2.	Is the knee arthroscopy being performed for joint exploration after a penetrating joint injury?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3.	Does the patient have:	
4.	True knee locking (the knee becomes "stuck" and cannot fully extend immediately after an injury)? Note: True knee locking is not pseudolocking after an injury due to increased joint fluid, pain and muscle spasm.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5.	Meniscal tear by arthroscopy or imaging?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6.	At least TWO of the following: fluid collection within the joint space identified on physical exam, tenderness along the medial or lateral joint line, pain with flexion and rotation, knee giving away?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7.	Continued symptoms/findings after treatment with NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) for at least 3 weeks (unless contraindicated/not	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

	tolerated)?	
8.	Continued symptoms/findings after activity modification WITH EITHER physical therapy or physician-directed home exercise?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Reference:

InterQual® 2012 Procedures Adult Criteria, Arthroscopy, Surgical, Knee.

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