

## JRF ORTHO – INSURANCE ASSISTANCE DOCUMENT

### Summary of medical criteria for OCAs

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield of New York

Policy Title: Osteochondral Grafting

Original Policy: 12/19/2002

Last Review: 06/21/2018

Policy #: 7.01.59

	<b>Criteria for medical necessity (knee or ankle)</b>
<b>Medical Evaluation</b>	Arthroscopy or MRI
<b>Cartilage defect size</b>	Larger chondral defects (e.g. less than or equal to 10cm <sup>2</sup> total)
<b>Cartilage defect characterization</b>	Large, full-thickness chondral defect of the distal femoral articular surface (i.e., medial condyle, lateral condyle or trochlea) classified by Outerbridge Scale as Grade III or Grade IV
<b>Cause of defect</b>	Acute and repetitive trauma
<b>Lesion (defect) and surrounding cartilage</b>	Surrounded by sharp definite borders of normal hyaline cartilage The lesion is largely contained with near normal surrounding articular cartilage and articulating cartilage (grades 0,1, 2) Absence of corresponding tibial or patellar lesion (“kissing lesion”) with a Modified Outerbridge Scale of Grade III or Grade IV
<b>Patient demographic</b>	Patient has achieved mature skeletal growth Not a candidate for total knee arthroplasty Body Mass Index less than 35 Age 49 years or younger
<b>Patient condition</b>	Severe, disabling pain and a loss of knee function which interferes with ability to carry out age appropriate activities of daily living and/or demands of employment
<b>Prior treatment</b>	Previous arthroscopic or other traditional surgical procedure (i.e. microfracture, drilling, abrasion, osteochondral graft) resulted in an inadequate response Failure of non-surgical management for at least three (3) months in duration
<b>Joint health</b>	Absence of osteoarthritis or generalized tibial chondromalacia, steroid-induced cartilage or bone disease
<b>Knee stability</b>	Presence of ALL of the following on physical examination <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Stable knee with intact or reconstructed ligaments (ACL or PCL)</li><li>2. Normal joint alignment; and</li><li>3. Normal joint space</li></ol>
<b>Patient compliance</b>	Patient is capable and willing to participate in an extensive period of non-weight bearing and supervised post-operative physical rehabilitation program
<b>OCA for other joints</b>	Based upon our criteria and assessment of the peer-reviewed literature, osteochondral grafting has not been medically proven to be effective and is investigational for use in joints other than the knee and ankle