

JRF ORTHO – INSURANCE ASSISTANCE DOCUMENT

Summary of medical criteria for OCAs

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Policy Title: Autografts and Allografts in the Treatment of Focal Articular Cartilage Lesions

Original Date: 07/01/2002

Effective Date: 09/01/2018 (RETIRED DUE TO MANAGEMENT OF POLICY BY TURNING POINT)

Policy #: MP – 9.003

	Criteria for medical necessity
Medical Evaluation	NR
Cartilage defect size	Large (e.g., 2-10 cm ²)
Cartilage defect characterization	Full thickness chondral defects of the knee
Cause of defect	Acute or repetitive trauma
Lesion (defect) and surrounding cartilage	NR
Patient demographic	Severe obesity (e.g., body mass index (BMI) greater than 35 kg/m ²) may affect outcomes due to the increased stress on weight-bearing surfaces of the joint
Patient condition	When other cartilage repair techniques (e.g., microfracture, osteochondral autografting or autologous chondrocyte implantation) would be inadequate due to the size, location, or depth of the lesion
Prior treatment	If debridement is the only prior surgical treatment, consideration should be given to marrow-stimulating techniques before osteochondral grafting is performed
Joint health	NR
Knee stability	Misalignment and instability of the joint are contraindications. Therefore, additional procedures, such as repair of ligaments or tendons or creation of an osteotomy for realignment of the joint, may be performed at the same time. In addition, meniscal allograft transplantation may be performed in combination, either concurrently or sequentially, with osteochondral allografting or osteochondral autografting
Patient compliance	NR
OCA for other joints	Osteochondral allograft transplantation for all other joints is considered investigational. There is insufficient evidence to support a conclusion concerning the health outcomes or benefits associated with this procedure.