

## Provider Checklist-Outpatient -Imaging

### **Checklist: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Knee (CPT Code: 73721, 73722, 73723)**

All Indications [**\*One has to be present**]

**\*Acute knee pain secondary to trauma [Both have to be present]**

Sx/findings at knee [**Two have to be present**]

Joint effusion/swelling  
Limited ROM  
Acute muscle spasm limiting PE

No fracture by x-ray

**\*Suspected unstable meniscal tear [One has to be present]**

Knee locking by Hx/PE  
McMurray's test positive

**\*Suspected stable meniscal tear by Sx/findings [Both have to be present]**

Knee Sx/findings [**Two have to be present**]

Effusion by PE  
Joint line tenderness  
Pain with flexion and rotation

Continued Sx/findings after Rx [**All have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx  $\geq$  3 wks  
-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT  $\geq$  4 wks  
Activity modification  $\geq$  4 wks

\*Suspected cruciate ligament injury [**Both have to be present**]

Knee giving way by Hx  
Grade II/III instability of ACL/PCL by PE

\*Suspected multiligamentous injury [**Both have to be present**]

Grade II/III instability by PE [**One has to be present**]

LCL  
MCL  
Posterolateral complex

Grade II/III instability of ACL/PCL by PE

\*Suspected LCL injury with grade II/III instability of LCL by PE

\*Suspected MCL injury [**Both have to be present**]

Grade II/III instability of MCL by PE  
Continued instability after Rx [**Both have to be present**]

Brace  $\geq$  6 wks  
Activity modification  $\geq$  6 wks

\*Knee complaints, unknown etiology [**All have to be present**]

Sx/findings [**One has to be present**]

Joint pain  
Limited ROM  
Crepitus  
Joint line tenderness  
Effusion by PE  
Giving way by Hx

Knee x-ray nondiagnostic for etiology of Sx/findings  
Continued Sx/findings after Rx [**All have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx  $\geq$  3 wks  
-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT  $\geq$  4 wks  
Activity modification  $\geq$  4 wks

\*Suspected intra-articular loose body [**All have to be present**]

Symptoms at knee [**One has to be present**]

Joint pain  
Locking  
Giving way by Hx

Findings at knee [**Two have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM  
Limited ROM  
Clicking

Knee x-ray nondiagnostic for loose body

\*Suspected osteochondritis dissecans [**All have to be present**]

Symptoms at knee [**One has to be present**]

Joint pain  
Giving way by Hx

Findings at knee [**Two have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM  
Limited ROM  
Clicking  
Effusion by PE

Knee x-ray nondiagnostic for osteochondritis dissecans

\*Suspected tumor involving soft tissue [**One has to be present**]

Bone tumor eroding through cortex by x-ray  
Palpable periarticular/intra-articular mass with negative x-ray

\*Suspected avascular necrosis (osteonecrosis), knee [**All have to be present**]

Knee pain  
Pain with passive ROM  
Location [**One has to be present**]

Femoral condyle  
Tibial plateau

Knee x-ray nondiagnostic for avascular necrosis  
Continued pain after Rx [**Both have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx  $\geq$  4 wks  
-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT  $\geq$  6 wks

\*Suspected quadriceps tendon injury [**All have to be present**]

Injury to the area by Hx  
Symptoms [**Both have to be present**]

Pain in suprapatellar area  
Inability to actively extend knee/bear weight

Findings [**All have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM  
Tender quadriceps tendon  
No palpable defect in tendon

No patellar fracture by x-ray

\*Suspected Baker's cyst [**All have to be present**]

Pain in posteromedial knee increased with activity  
No locking/giving way by Hx  
Findings [**Both have to be present**]

Popliteal mass  
Knee exam otherwise normal

US nondiagnostic for Baker's cyst  
Continued Sx/findings after Rx [**Both have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

- 1 Rx  $\geq$  4 wks
- 2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT  $\geq$  6 wks

\*Suspected osteomyelitis [**Both have to be present**]

Findings [**One has to be present**]

- ESR > 30 mm/hr
- Temperature > 100.4 F(38.0 C)
- WBC > 10,000/cu.mm( $10 \times 10^9$ /L)
- Blood culture positive
- C-reactive protein > 10 mg/L

Knee x-ray nondiagnostic for osteomyelitis