Cartilage Transplants – Allograft (from cadaver)

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.

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Burke and Bradley Orthopedics
**Removal of Damaged Cartilage Introduction**

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**Doctor's Personal Note: A Message From Your Doctor**

Thank you for visiting our website and viewing our 3D Animation Library. These animations should assist you in better understanding your condition or procedure. We look forward to answering any additional questions you may have at our next appointment.

**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. This procedure is performed on people who have a specific cartilage defect typically due to an injury. It is not done when cartilage loss is much more extensive.

**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.

Repair
A plug of allograft tissue containing bone and cartilage is shaped to fit into the area that is damaged. The damaged area is prepared and the new plug is inserted into the site.

End of Procedure
After the tissue is in place, the surgical instruments are removed and the procedure is completed.