

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 ≥ 4 wks
Activity modification ≥ 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(10×10^9 /L)
- Blood culture positive
- C-reactive protein > 10 mg/L

Knee x-ray nondiagnostic for osteomyelitis