



Knee Arthroscopy-Meniscal Tear/Osteoarthritis Authorization Form

This form should be completed by the person who has a thorough knowledge of the member’s current clinical presentation and his/her treatment history. Please complete all sections. Omissions, generalities, and illegibility will result in the form being returned for completion or clarification. Please refer to the [Medical Necessity Guidelines for Knee Arthroscopy, Surgical for Meniscal Tear with Osteoarthritis](#) for further information.

Please fax the completed form to the plan listed below:

- Tufts Health Plan Commercial Plans; Fax: 617.972.9409
- Tufts Health Public Plans; Fax: 888.415.9055
- Tufts Health RITogether — A Rhode Island Medicaid Plan; Fax: 857.304.6404
- Tufts Health Freedom Plan; Fax: 617.972.9409

Demographic Information

Patient Name:	Patient DOB:	Date of Request:
Patient ID#:	Dx./ICD-10:	Procedure Code(s):
Provider Name:	Provider ID#:	Provider Phone #:

Tufts Health Plan may authorize coverage of Knee Arthroscopy, Surgical when the Member meets one of the following criteria sets. Please check all that apply.

1. Diagnosis of osteoarthritis (OA) of the knee with a concomitant meniscal tear when ANY of the following are present:

- Bucket handle tear on exam or MRI
- Displaced or unstable meniscal fragment on MRI which is symptomatic
- A history of knee “locks”
- An audible or palpable click on examination
- A patient with an acute traumatic tear

OR

2. For Members aged 55 and older, with a Kellgren-Lawrence Grade 1 or Grade 2 osteoarthritis (OA) of the knee NOT meeting any of the above criteria after a failure of ALL of the following:

- A minimum of eight (8) physical therapy visits
- A minimum of three (3) weeks of anti-inflammatory medications (unless contraindicated)
- At least one corticosteroid injection and one course of hyaluronate injections

Kellgren-Lawrence Grading Scale for Clarification of Knee OA:

Grade 1:

Doubtful joint space narrowing (JSN) and possible osteophytic lipping

Grade 2:

Definite osteophytes and possible JSN on anteroposterior weight-bearing radiograph

Grade 3:

Multiple osteophytes, definite JSN, sclerosis and possible bony deformity

Grade 4:

Large osteophytes, marked JSN, severe sclerosis and definitely bony deformity

[Provider Services](#)