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RMHP Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation (ACT) Knee

MCG Health
Ambulatory Care
27th Edition

AUTH: RMHP-AC-5011-U (AC)

[Link to Codes](#)

- [Description](#)
- [Clinical Indications for Procedure](#)
- [Policy History](#)
- [References](#)
- [Codes](#)

Description

[Return to top of RMHP Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation \(ACT\) Knee - AC](#)

Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation (ACT): Also referred to as autologous chondrocyte implantation (ACI), is a form of tissue engineering that creates a graft from a patient's own cartilage cells to repair defects in the articular cartilage. For first-generation ACI, the process involves removal, expansion (culture), and reimplantation of the patient's own chondrocytes under a piece of periosteal membrane that is excised from the tibia of the patient and sutured over the site of knee injury. With ACT, a region of healthy articular cartilage is identified and biopsied through arthroscopy. The tissue is sent to a facility licensed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) where the chondrocytes are separated. (Camp et al., 2014).

Clinical Indications for Procedure

[Return to top of RMHP Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation \(ACT\) Knee - AC](#)

For **ALL plans**, the case will be pended for the review team to apply the UHC guideline titled Articular Cartilage Defect Repairs. The requester will be notified of the decision per protocol. See References.

Policy History

[Return to top of RMHP Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation \(ACT\) Knee - AC](#)

2024 MCG Health 27th Edition now has a policy for this. Archive this policy and use the MCG policy A-0415. Updated UHC policy reference, states experimental as does the MCG policy.

2023 annual review and approval by committee hierarchy.

RMHP adopted UHC guideline 12/27/2022 and retired/archived/deactivated former policy.

References

[Return to top of RMHP Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation \(ACT\) Knee - AC](#)

The Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (MPFS) (status A, priced), reviewed 3/26/2023.

Health First Colorado (Medicaid) Fee Schedule, reviewed 3/26/2023.

The UnitedHealthcare Commercial Medical Policy Surgery of the Knee, Policy Number 2023T0553Z Effective Date: October 1, 2023

Online URL: <https://www.uhcprovider.com/content/dam/provider/docs/public/policies/comm-medical-drug/articular-cartilage-defect-repairs.pdf>

RMHP internal location: S:\GJ_SHARE\CM\Policy. Process. Workflows\Clinical Policy_Coverage Guidelines\Clinical GMM\MCG
UHC Guideline Copies - filename UHC articular-cartilage-defect-repairs

Codes

[Return to top of *RMHP Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation \(ACT\) Knee - AC*](#)

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