

Procedure Name: Knee Arthroscopy

Brief Description of Procedure:

Arthroscopic surgery is a common orthopedic procedure that is used to diagnose and treat problems in joints. Greek words: 'arthro,' meaning "joint" and 'scope,' meaning, "look." When arthroscopy is performed, a telescope with a camera is inserted into the joint through a small incision. The camera is attached to a light source and shows a picture of the inside of the joint on a monitor. One or more incisions may be made to treat the underlying problem. This procedure can be used to diagnose a joint problem, perform surgery that repairs a joint problem, remove a loose or foreign body, or monitor a disease or the effectiveness of a treatment. Arthroscopy is commonly performed on the knee, shoulder, and ankle. It also can be done on the hip, elbow, and wrist.

Describe anesthesia type that typically is given:

General Anesthesia is usually used for this surgery. See Anesthesia Section.

What patients that smoke can expect when having surgery:

After surgery your anesthesia specialist will check your breathing and lung sounds to determine if a breathing treatment is needed. Smoking increases airway irritation, which leads to wheezing and coughing. Further breathing treatments and medications are sometimes needed.

Average length of surgery time:

45 minutes-1 hour

Average length in immediate recovery:

30 minutes

Average length for time of discharge:

Expect to be here an average of one hour after surgery. During this time you may experience some discomfort. Medication can be given to make pain bearable.

When can you go back to work:

Depending on your occupation you and your doctor will discuss when you may return to work. At your post operative visit with your surgeon, he will discuss any further need to be off work based on your occupation.

What will my weight-bearing limit be after surgery:

The surgeon will determine the amount of weight bearing and instruct you depending on the amount of repair that has to be done during your surgery. If you have crutches, you should bring them with you to the hospital.

What kind of post discomfort can you expect:

You can expect to have a bulky dressing following knee arthroscopy with a special wrap that holds ice on the knee. The ice will help to lessen swelling that may cause some discomfort. You may experience incisional pain from 2-3 ½ inch incisions. Your surgeon will write a prescription for pain medicine to help control the pain.

Surgical Safety Checklist:

For optimal quality care and surgical safety, the following questions will be asked.

CONFIRM between patient, surgeon, and surgery team:

Identity of the patient
Surgical Site
Procedure
Sign Consent
Surgeon to mark the surgical site, if applicable
Allergies



Good Samaritan
Surgery Services