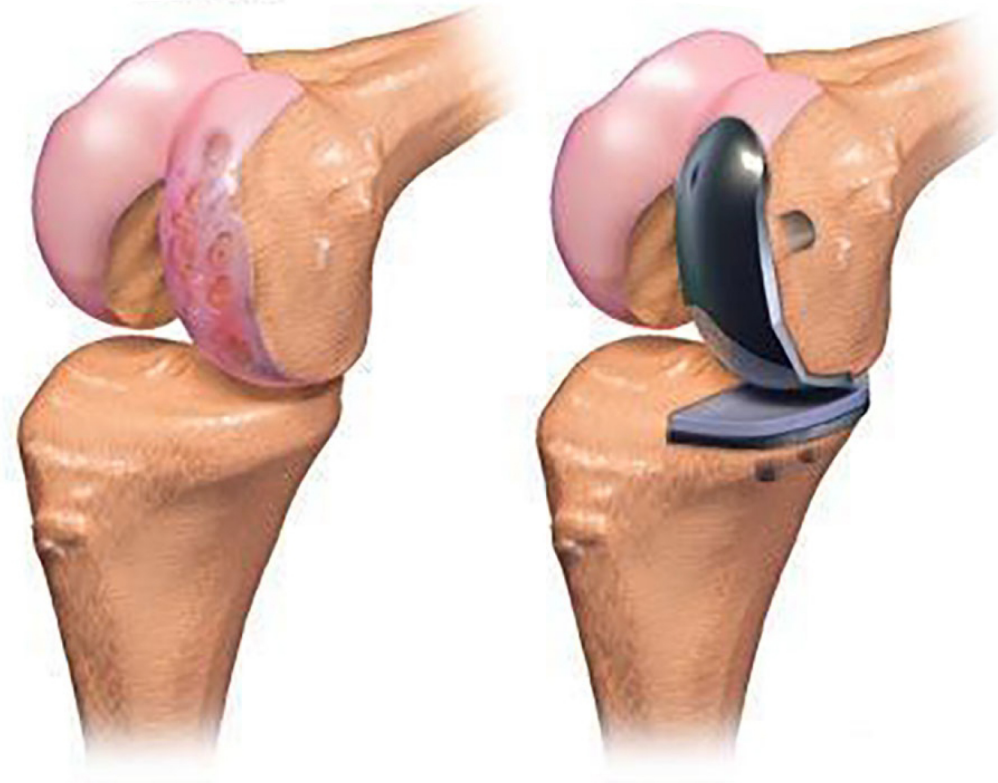


WE CARE



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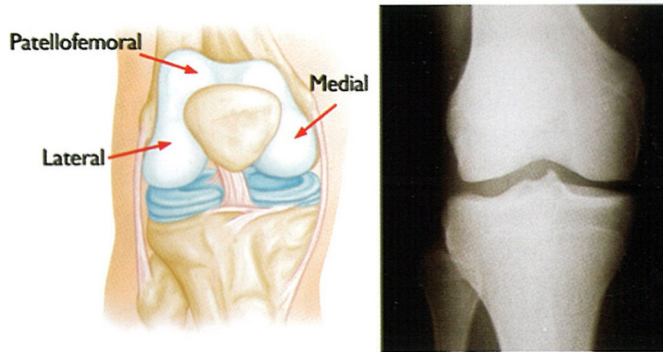


Introduction

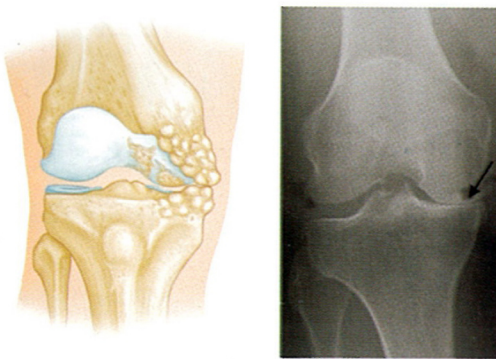
Partial knee replacement (also referred to as half knee replacement) is a surgical treatment option that replaces (or resurfaces) only the damaged portion of the knee while conserving knee ligaments and unaffected cartilage.

The procedure is an alternative to total knee replacements for patients whose disease is limited to just one part of the knee.

Because a partial knee replacement is done through a smaller incision, patients usually spend less time in the hospital and return to normal activities sooner than total knee replacement patients.



(Left) A normal knee joint: The medial, lateral and patellofemoral compartments are shown with red arrows. (Right) An x-ray of a normal knee joint showing healthy space between the bones.



(Left) Osteoarthritis that is limited to the medial compartment. (Right) This x-ray shows severe osteoarthritis with "bone-on-bone" degeneration in the medial compartment (Arrow)

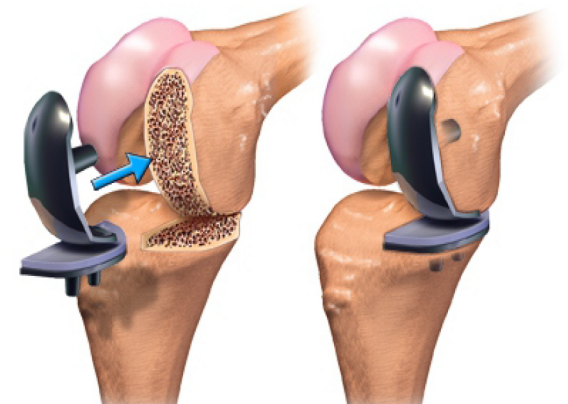
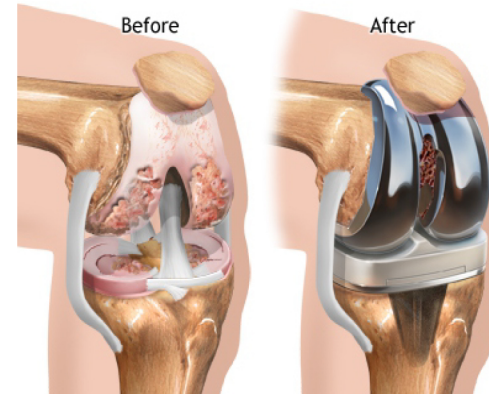
Description

In knee osteoarthritis, the cartilage protecting the bones of the knee slowly wears away. This can occur throughout the knee joint or just in a single area of the knee.

Knee joint is divided into three compartments:

- Medical compartment (the inside part of the knee)
- Lateral compartment (The outside part)
- Patellofemoral compartment (the front of the knee between the kneecap and thigh bone)

Osteoarthritis limited to a single compartment can be treated with a partial knee replacement (also referred to as a unicompartmental knee replacement). During this procedure, the damaged compartment is replaced with metal and plastic. The healthy cartilage and bone, as well as all the ligaments are preserved. This makes the knee feel normal after the surgery.



Advantage of Partial knee replacement.

The advantages of partial knee replacement over total knee replacement include

- Quicker recovery
- Shorter length of stay
- Reduced complications
- Less pain after surgery
- Less blood loss and reduced infection rate
- Better functional outcome
- Feel more natural

Also, because the bone, cartilage and ligaments in the healthy parts of the knee are kept, many patients report that a unicompartmental knee replacement feels more natural than a total knee replacement. A unicompartmental knee will also bend better to continue an active life style

Candidates for surgery

If you osteoarthritis is limited to one compartment and non-surgical treatment options are no longer relieving your symptoms, your doctor may recommend a partial knee replacement surgery.

Other factors to consider

- You may want to consider a knee replacement if your knee pain persists despite your taking anti-inflammatory drugs and maintaining a healthy weight.
- An X-ray of the knee determine you eligibility for partial knee replacement.
- Unicompartmental knee replacements have demonstrated excellent results in both younger and older patients.

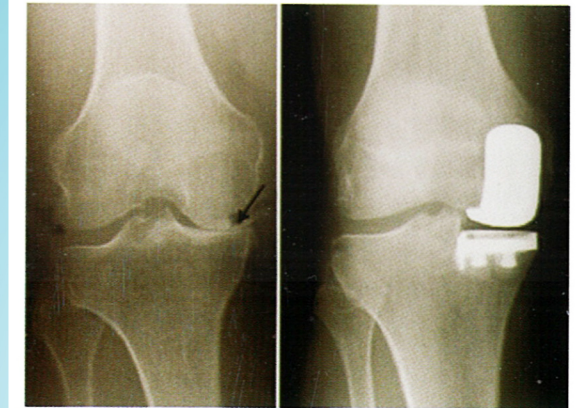
If you have any of the following characteristics, you may not be eligible for the procedure

- Inflammatory Arthritis
- Knee stiffness
- Ligament damage
- Advanced Osteoarthritis
- Severe deformities

What is recovery like?

You can start moving the knee the day after surgery. Your knee function should return rapidly and with less pain than with total knee replacement. You will work with a physical therapist to mobilize the knee while in the hospital and for two to four weeks after

discharge. You are usually discharged no later than one or two days after surgery. You should be back to activity in about 4 weeks. Impact exercises or jogging/running may not be recommended because the replacement includes a bearing surface that can wear.



(Left) Severe Osteoarthritis limited to the medial compartment
Right The same knee after partial knee replacement.



Frequently asked questions

Q: Are there any age restriction for partial knee surgery?

A: There are no strict recommendations and partial knee replacements can be done at any stage provided the eligibility criteria are met

Q: What kind of complication can occur with partial knee surgery?

A: As with any joint replacement surgery, complications may include instability of the knee, loosening of the implant, infection, nerve injury and deep vein thrombosis. Generally, complications occur less frequently after partial knee replacement than they do following total knee replacement. Be sure to discuss any concerns you have regarding these or their issues with your surgeon.

Q: Is recovery from partial knee replacement painful?

A: While pain varies by patient, typically patients experience less pain and stiffness following partial knee replacement that they do after total knee replacement

Q: If I decide to have partial knee replacement, does that mean that I will no longer have arthritis of the knee?

A: Partial knee replacement will address the arthritis that is present in the particular compartment of the knee that is affected. However if Osteoarthritis advances to other compartment you may need a total knee replacement

Q: How long can I expect my partial knee replacement to last?

A: A well-done Partial Knee can last for more than 15-20years.

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