Knee cartilage repair that uses your own cells

# So you can return to what you enjoy





# Articular knee cartilage injuries can be a real pain



Knee pain is a common condition that can be caused by a sports injury, an accident, or everyday wear-and-tear.

Damage to the articular cartilage can be one reason for the pain.

## COMMON SYMPTOMS OF KNEE INJURY



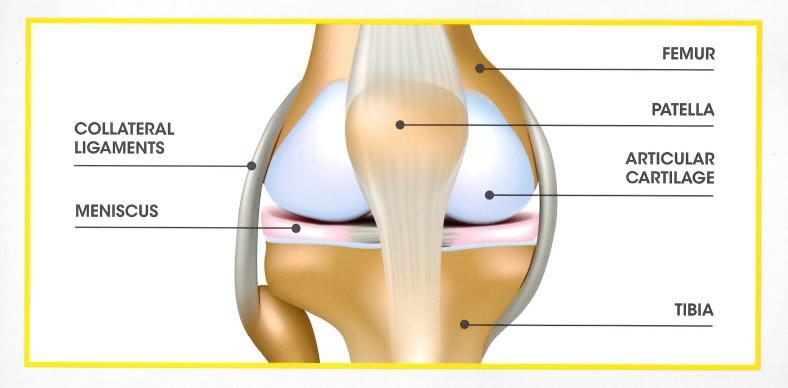






These symptoms can limit your ability to do simple tasks, such as climbing stairs.

## **KNEE ANATOMY**



A complex joint, the knee is made up of three different bones: thighbone (femur), shinbone (tibia), and kneecap (patella).

Connective tissues (ligaments and cartilage) are also part of the knee. Ligaments connect knee bones to each other and help keep them stable.

Cartilage reduces friction and helps movement.

#### THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF KNEE CARTILAGE:

- Meniscus: Lies between the bones and cushions the joint during movement
- Articular cartilage: Coats the bony surfaces of the femur and tibia, allowing joint bones to glide over one another during movement. Also cushions and acts as a shock absorber

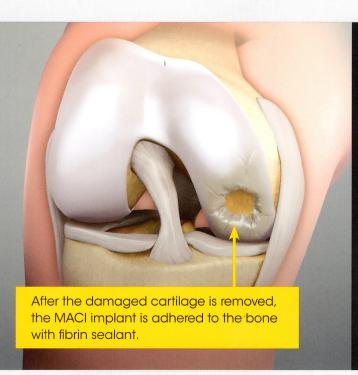


# Damaged cartilage doesn't heal well on its own

# What can cause articular cartilage damage

- Accidents where a direct blow to the knee occurs
- Repetitive use/overuse injuries from sports or wear-and-tear where the cartilage breaks down slowly over time

Because damaged cartilage has little ability to repair itself, even small injuries may become larger over time if left untreated. Pain and stiffness may also increase, and your ability to move your knee joint may decrease. However, in the appropriate patients, surgery, such as MACI, can repair the damage.



### IS MACI RIGHT FOR YOU?

MACI is a surgical implant that uses your own cartilage cells to repair articular cartilage.

With rehab, MACI may help get you back to the activities you enjoy 9–12 months after surgery.

Talk with your doctor to find out if MACI is right for you.

# Help with MACI

Vericel offers case management services to help during your treatment experience. Most commercial carriers will cover the cost of MACI if deemed medically necessary.

