

SHIP8 Clinical Commissioning Groups Priorities Committee

Policy Recommendation: Patellar resurfacing as part of primary total knee joint replacement

Date of issue: August 2016

The Priorities Committee has reviewed the evidence for clinical and cost effectiveness of surgical interventions for patellar resurfacing as part of primary total knee replacement and recommends that:

- **Patellar resurfacing as part of primary total knee joint replacement is low priority.**
 - **There is lack of sufficient evidence of clinical benefit to support routine resurfacing of the patella. Patella resurfacing as part of a routine total knee replacement is therefore not normally funded at this time.**

Exceptional clinical cases can be considered through the Individual Funding Request process.

Supporting Information

- There is no NICE guidance on whether to routinely use patella resurfacing as part of TKR.
- There is no evidence that patella resurfacing gives significant clinical benefit. There is no significant difference in the outcomes of TKR (including anterior knee pain, knee scores and patient satisfaction) with or without patella resurfacing.
 - 7 of 10 systematic reviews (SRs) report no difference between the groups (with or without patella resurfacing) in the incidence of post-operative anterior knee pain
 - 9 of 10 SRs found that patella resurfacing can reduce the rate of reoperation however, most of the reviews did not detail the reasons for reoperation and the rate difference translates to needing to resurface 22 to 25 patellae to avoid one re-operation
 - All SRs report no difference in post-operative function scores with or without patella resurfacing
 - 3 SRs report no difference in post-operative patient satisfaction with or without patella resurfacing

In 2013/14 only 0.7% of the 2, 828 TKR procedures in SHIP were coded to the additional tariff which adds £2,642 to an overall tariff of £9,019. By Jan 2016 this rose to 26.1% leading to an additional cost to CCGs of more than £2.4m in the last 2 years.