

**Excluded: Procedure not routinely funded**

**Thames Valley Priorities Committee Commissioning Policy Statement**

**Policy No. TVPC6**                      **Arthroscopic lavage and debridement for patients with osteoarthritis of the knee**

**Recommendation made by the Priorities Committee:**      **May 2014; reviewed July 2018<sup>1</sup>**

**Date of issue:**                              **November 2015 / updated November 2018**

In addition to the Thames Valley Priorities Committee statement below, the following requirement also needs to be met for all patients of Berkshire West CCG. From January 2020, all Berkshire West patients with a knee related condition need to be seen by the Berkshire West Triage service prior to referral to secondary care and therefore any referrals directly from GPs for Berkshire West patients should be rejected by secondary care.

The Thames Valley Priorities Committee has considered the evidence for treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee as per the [NICE Clinical Guideline 177 Osteoarthritis: Care and management in adults \(February, 2014\)](#) and recommends that arthroscopic lavage and debridement is a **NOT NORMALLY FUNDED** treatment.

**Do not refer for arthroscopic lavage and debridement as part of treatment for osteoarthritis, unless the person has knee osteoarthritis with a clear history of mechanical locking (as opposed to morning joint stiffness, 'giving way' or X-ray evidence of loose bodies).**

**NOTES:**

- Potentially exceptional circumstances may be considered by a patient's CCG where there is evidence of significant health status impairment (e.g. inability to perform activities of daily living) and there is evidence that the intervention sought would improve the individual's health status.
- This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or new national guidance, eg, from NICE.
- Thames Valley clinical policies can be viewed at <http://www.fundingrequests.ccsu.nhs.uk/>

**Primary diagnosis code**

M17% Gonarthrosis [arthrosis of knee]

**Primary procedure codes**

W80.1 Open debridement and irrigation of joint

W80.2 Open debridement of joint NEC

W80.3 Open irrigation of joint NEC

W80.8 Other specified debridement and irrigation of joint

W80.9 Unspecified debridement and irrigation of joint

W82.2 Endoscopic resection of semilunar cartilage NEC

W83.3 Endoscopic shaving of articular cartilage

W85.1 Endoscopic removal of loose body from knee joint

W85.2 Endoscopic irrigation of knee joint

W85.8 Other specified therapeutic endoscopic operations on cavity of knee joint

**Secondary procedure codes**

Y76.7 Arthroscopic approach to joint

Z84.6 Knee joint

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<sup>1</sup> No updates have been made to this policy.