

# Autograft OATS® Technique

## 2026 Coding and Reimbursement Guidelines

To help answer common coding and reimbursement questions about arthroscopic procedures completed with the OATS technique, the following information is shared for educational and strategic planning purposes only. While Arthrex believes this information to be correct, coding and reimbursement decisions by AMA, CMS, and leading payers are subject to change without notice. As a result, providers are encouraged to speak regularly with their payers.

### Value Analysis Significance

The disposable donor and recipient cutting tube sets of the single-use osteochondral autograft transplant system (OATS) kit facilitate harvesting of various diameter osteochondral/hyaline cartilage cylinders from a donor site superior and lateral to the femoral notch or above the sulcus terminalis. A recipient socket, sized to the proper depth, is created in the chondral defect to accept the donor graft. The bone cylinder is inserted with a collared pin delivery system for press-fit fixation.

### Coding Considerations

Codes provide a uniform language for describing services performed by health care providers. The actual selection of codes depends on the primary surgical procedure, supported by details in the patient's medical record about medical necessity. It is the sole responsibility of the health care provider to correctly prepare claims submitted to insurance carriers.

### Physician's Professional Fee

The primary arthroscopic procedure determined by the surgeon may include:

2026 Medicare National Average Payment Rates (Not Adjusted for Geography)		Physician <sup>b,c</sup>		Hospital Outpatient <sup>d</sup>		ASC <sup>e</sup>
CPT <sup>a</sup> Code HCPCS Code	Code Description	Work RVUs	Medicare National Average	APC and APC Description	Medicare National Average	Medicare National Average
<b>Knee</b>						
<b>29866</b>	Arthroscopy, knee, surgical; osteochondral autograft(s) (eg, mosaicplasty) (includes harvesting of autograft[s])	14.30	\$984.20	5114 – Level 4 Musculoskeletal (MSK) procedures	\$7413.38	\$3695.53
<b>27415</b>	Osteochondral allograft, knee, open	19.50	\$1264.49	5115 – Level 5 MSK procedures	\$13,116.76	\$10,492.07
<b>27416</b>	Osteochondral autograft(s), knee, open (eg, mosaicplasty) (includes harvesting of autograft[s])	13.81	\$906.99	5114 – Level 4 MSK procedures	\$7413.38	\$3695.53
<b>Foot</b>						
<b>29892</b>	Arthroscopically aided repair of large osteochondritis dissecans lesion, talar dome fracture, or tibial plafond fracture, with or without internal fixation (includes arthroscopy)	10.01	\$600.52	5114 – Level 4 MSK procedures	\$7413.38	\$3695.53
<b>28446</b>	Open osteochondral autograft, talus (includes obtaining graft[s])	17.27	\$1131.22	5114 – Level 4 MSK procedures	\$7143.73	\$4449.87

<sup>a</sup> CPT (Current Procedural Terminology) is a registered trademark of the American Medical Association. Health care providers and their professional coders must closely review this primary citation along with the patient's medical record before selecting the appropriate code.

<sup>b</sup> AMA CPT 2026 and CMS PFS 2026 Final Rule

<sup>c</sup> CMS Conversion Factor (CF) effective January 1, 2026: \$33.5675

<sup>d</sup> CMS 2026 OPPS Final Rule @ [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)

<sup>e</sup> CMS 2026 ASC Final Rule @ [www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)



HCPCS Code	Code Description	Notes
<b>C1762</b>	<b>Connective tissue, human</b> These tissues include a natural, cellular collagen or extracellular matrix obtained from autologous rectus fascia, decellularized cadaveric fascia lata, or decellularized dermal tissue. They are intended to repair or support damaged or inadequate soft tissue.	For Medicare, anchors/screws/joint devices are not separately reimbursed in any setting of care (eg, hospital, ASC). These costs are absorbed by the facility via the appropriate reimbursement mechanism (eg, MS-DRG, APC, etc).
<b>L8699</b>	<b>Prosthetic implant, no otherwise specified</b> This code reports prosthetic implants that are not otherwise described in more specific HCPCS Level II codes.	For non-Medicare (eg, commercial) patients, depending on contractual terms and general stipulations of the payer, direct invoicing by the facility may be allowed. Contact the patient's insurance company or the facility's payer contract for further information.
<b>A4649</b>	<b>Surgical supplies; miscellaneous</b> This code reports miscellaneous surgical supplies and should only be reported if a more specific HCPCS Level II or CPT code is not available.	

List of pass-through payment device category codes (updated September 2022): [https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/HospitalOutpatientPPS/passthrough\\_payment](https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/HospitalOutpatientPPS/passthrough_payment)

For more information about the primary procedure, please speak with your admitting surgeon. You may also call the Arthrex Coding Helpline at 1-844-604-6359 or email [AskMarketAccess@arthrex.com](mailto:AskMarketAccess@arthrex.com).

The content provided in this guide is for informational purposes only. The Arthrex Coding Helpline does not guarantee reimbursement by third-party payers.

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