Am I a candidate for treatment with BioCartilage?

Your surgeon will guide you in deciding what particular treatment is best for you and explain the risks and contraindications associated with any treatment. A BioCartilage procedure is most commonly performed utilizing a minimally invasive technique.

Are there any rehabilitation protocols?

Your physician will be able to provide the rehabilitation protocol that is appropriate for the cartilage lesion that is being treated. The rehabilitation protocol will typically be similar to other cartilage therapies such as microfracture.

Will my insurance cover this procedure?

Please consult with your physician's office and insurance carrier prior to surgery to confirm coverage for BioCartilage procedures. Most insurance carriers will cover the majority of costs associated with procedures that are deemed medically necessary.

UMTB

BioCartilage is manufactured and distributed by the University of Miami Tissue Bank
www.umiamitb.org

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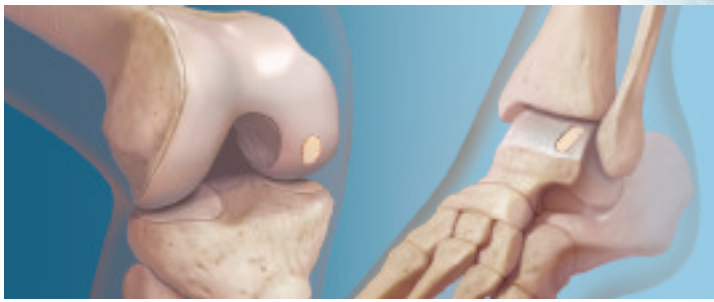
Arthrex®

A Patient's Guide to Cartilage Treatment Options



BioCartilage®

Cartilage Extracellular Matrix

Introduction

Articular cartilage, also called hyaline cartilage, is the tissue component that covers the joint surface at the end of a bone. A joint typically consists of two bones connected together with the articular cartilage of each bone opposing the other. When healthy, the cartilage allows our joints to go through painless range-of-motion and helps to provide shock absorption when weight-bearing. When cartilage is damaged, this may cause patient discomfort along with joint swelling, which leads to decreased range-of-motion and stiffness.

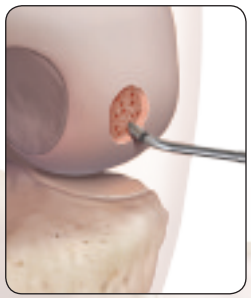
How is injured cartilage treated?

The physician will evaluate your symptoms and perform a physical examination of the joint that is causing you discomfort. The physician may also elect to obtain an imaging study to further evaluate your injury. Depending on the findings, your physician may determine a surgical procedure is warranted. When a cartilage lesion is identified, your surgeon may recommend a microfracture procedure, also known as bone marrow stimulation technique. This procedure consists of debriding the damaged cartilage until a border of healthy cartilage is found. Small holes are then made in the base of the defect providing access channels for the underlying bone marrow cells to enter and begin laying down reparative tissue.

What is BioCartilage®?

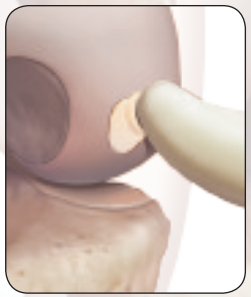
BioCartilage is developed from allograft articular cartilage. After going through a number of proprietary processing steps, the result is a cartilage extracellular matrix scaffold. BioCartilage contains the extracellular matrix that is native to articular cartilage, which includes scaffolding proteins and additional cartilaginous growth factors. The small particles are mixed with a blood solution that comes from your own body in order to create a paste-like consistency that can be applied over a cartilage defect.

BioCartilage Procedure in the Knee



Microfracture procedure

BioCartilage applied over defect



BioCartilage smoothed over defect

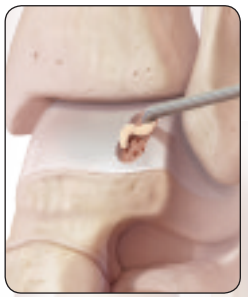
Completion of BioCartilage procedure

How does BioCartilage work?

BioCartilage functions as a tissue scaffold that your body's cells can attach to and produce new reparative cartilage tissue in the defect site. Your surgeon will clean the defect area, clearing out damaged tissue and use this scaffold in conjunction with microfracture as a way of providing attachment sites for the bone marrow cells. These cells will penetrate through the access channels to aid in the healing process.

BioCartilage Procedure in the Ankle

Microfracture procedure



BioCartilage applied over defect

BioCartilage smoothed over defect

Completion of BioCartilage procedure