



2009

KNEE MRI CRITERIA (MEDICARE)

Before ordering MRI of knee:

- Physical therapy is usually indicated unless acute injury in young age group, except in young age groups, this is 7 days of immobilization, non-weight bearing, ice followed by evaluation.
- Conservative therapy tried for 4 weeks of medical and/or physical therapy.

Knee MRI is a covered benefit when **ONE** of the following criteria is met:

- Meniscal injury; ***OR***
- Severe injury with normal plain x-ray; ***OR***
- CT with metal fragments or hardware; ***OR***
- Assess union of known fracture; ***OR***
- Osteochondritis dissecans; ***OR***
- Tumor/mass.