# **Knee Joint Injection**

A knee joint injection, sometimes referred to as an intraarticular knee injection, involves injecting a solution of local anesthetic and corticosteroid into the knee joint. The steroid is an anti-inflammatory medication, and it leads to pain reduction by decreasing the inflammation in the knee associated with conditions such as arthritis and meniscus tears.

## Duration

Less than 30 minutes.

#### How is it performed?

Prior to the injection, the injection site will be cleaned and numbed with a local anesthetic. X-ray or ultrasonic guidance is used to ensure proper placement and positioning of the needle. Contrast (x-ray dye) may be injected to confirm the needle is in the proper location. Once proper placement of the needle is confirmed, the physician will slowly inject the steroid medication.

#### What are some of the risks and side effects?

This procedure is a relatively safe, non-surgical treatment, with minimal risks of complications. Some of the most common or possible side effects are:

- Allergic reaction—swelling, rash, or itchiness. Call a physician immediately if you exhibit any of these symptoms.
- Leg muscle weakness, numbness, or soreness
- Dizziness
- Mild headaches



#### **Conditions treated**

You might benefit from a knee injection if you suffer from:

- Arthritis
- Bursitis
- Meniscus tears
- Ligament tears

#### To schedule a procedure

Please contact the nurse navigators to schedule any procedure.

- for McCullough-Hyde Ross Medical Center, call 513 246 7182\*
- for Good Samaritan Hospital and Bethesda Surgery Center, call 513 246 7958\*

\*Please note these numbers are for scheduling only

#### To ask other questions

Please call 513 246 7000. Select Option 3 three times.

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## What to expect after the procedure

Immediately after the injection, you may feel that your pain is gone or has decreased. This is due to the local anesthetic injected and will last only for a few hours. Once the anesthetic wears off, your pain may return and you may have a sore head for a day or two. You should start noticing more lasting pain relief a few days after the procedure.

You may want to apply ice to the injected area, and avoid strenuous activity.

Call your physician if you experience any severe pain, redness/swelling/discharge at the injection site, or fever/chills.