Knee MRI

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Disclosures

• No Relevant Disclosures

Objectives

- Basic Acquisition factors for Knee MRI
- MR indications
- Diagnostic Appearance of common MSK knee abnormalities on MRI focusing on sports medicine type patient population

MRI Field Strength, Configuration







Knee MR

- Dedicated Coil
- Scan Protocol (software)
 20-30 min



- Usually no contrast (Gadolinium)
- Use Contrast
 - Inject intravenously to see vascularity (mass)
 - Inject intra-articular to distend join (post op)

Knee MR

- Indications
 - Assess Bone, Ligaments, Cartilage, Joint
- Contraindications
 - Metallic objects can heat, move or generate current
 - Pacemaker, Brain Aneurysm Clips

MR Physics

T1	Fat, gadolinium bright	anatomy
T2 or STIR	Water Bright	pathology

Knee MRI

Menisci

Cruciate

Collateral ligaments

Bone marrow

Cartilage

Extensor mechanism











Meniscal Signal



No tear



Meniscal Tears Morphology

- Traumatic Tears
 - Radial
 - Vertical
 - Displaced
- Degenerative Tears
 - Oblique
 - Horizontal
 - Globular



History

- 25 yo male
- Twisted knee 2 months ago playing soccer







Dx

Large MM tear w Large flipped fragments from ahmm & phmm

16 yo male lateral pain & stiffness







Knee pain & Catching



16 yo female Gymnast Knee pain after tumbling injury



Torn & Flipped LM





Knee Pain & Mass









Next case

Locked knee after trauma















16 yo male, twisted during soccer Locked Knee







Accuracy of MRI in Meniscal Tears

	Medial	Lateral
Sensitivity	95%	81%
Specificity	88%	96%
Accuracy	92%	92%
NPV	93%	93%
PPV	90%	89%

Overall agreement of MRI and Arthro >90%

mean of 7 studies



Discoid Meniscus

- Thickened wafer shaped
- 5% of population
- Disc or ring shaped
- Usually lateral
- 20% bilateral
- Pain, premature tearing, snapping


16 yo football player Injury



Wrisberg Variant Discoid Meniscus







Watanabe classification of discoid lateral meniscus. A, Type I, Block-shaped stable, complete meniscus. B, Type II, Blockshaped stable, partial meniscus. C, Type III, Unstable meniscus, with stability arising only from the ligament of Wrisberg. (Reproduced from Andrish JT: Meniscal injuries in children and adolescents: Diagnosis and management. J Am Acad Orthop Surg 1996:4:231-237.)

Post Operative Menisci

- Repaired or partial meniscectomy
 - May remain abnormal in signal Should have Smooth edges No fluid tracking into meniscus No displaced fragments
- MR arthrography

MR Physics

T1	Fat, gadolinium bright	anatomy
T2 or STIR	Water Bright	pathology

MR Physics

T1	Fat, Gad Bright	anatomy
T1 Fat suppressed	Gad Bright Fat Dark	Injected Gad
T2 or STIR	Water Bright	pathology





Subchondral Stress fx, No Retear





T2 (fluid bright) "fat suppressed" T1 (contrast bright) "fat suppressed"

Another Patient Retear



T2 (fluid bright) "fat suppressed"

T1 (contrast bright) "fat suppressed"

Knee MRI

Specific Pathology Menisci Cruciate Collateral ligaments Cartilage **Bone Marrow Extensor Mechanism**



Cruciate Tears on MR

- Normal \checkmark T1, \checkmark T2
- Acute Tears
 T1,
 T2, Gap
- Chronic

Resorption May revert to \checkmark T1, T2



20 yo trauma 2008, 2009





ACL Tear Secondary Signs

- Bone Bruises
- Deep terminal sulcus
- Anterior Drawer Sign
- Segond

ACL Tear: Bone Bruise Pattern





19 yo female soccer player



Acute Injury



1 year later



1 year later



normal

Drawer sign

Next Case Acute Injury



Follow up MRI months later



Secondary Signs

- Segond (anterolateral ligament)
- Positive Drawer sign



Next Case

- 19 yo male
- 1 year after basketball injury
- Left knee injury

Right





Left







Deep Lateral Femoral Notch Sign

• Depth of >1.5 mm abnormal (ACL Tear)



Acute Trauma



Tibial Spine Avulsion



ACL Tear: MR Accuracy

•Accuracy, 92 - 100%

•Sensitivity, 98%

•Specificity, 93%

Acute PCL Injuries

Midsubstance interstitial tear most common:

widening

increased T1 and T2 signal

higher SI than ACL on any sequence

Complete tears show disruption of the ligament

Avulsion of tibial attachment





29 yo Hyperextension Injury






Hyperextension Marrow Edema



Knee MRI

Specific Pathology Menisci Cruciate **Collateral ligaments** Cartilage **Bone Marrow Extensor Mechanism**





MCL Tear: Site of Rupture

•Proximal attachment to femur

•Mid-substance

•Distal attachment to tibia



MCL Injuries on MR

Grade I thickening or edema w/o discontinuity Grade II intermediate, partial tears Grade III discontinuity, complete tears



MCL Sprain



Grade I

Grade II

Grade III

Lateral Collateral Ligament Complex Injury

- Less common than MCL injury
- MR: Edema, redundancy and discontinuity



FCL tear



Runner





Iliotibial Band Syndrome

- Inflammation of IT band
- Downhill runners or cyclists
- Often w increased training
- Repetitive flex/ext w weight bearing causing friction



• Accentuated by genu varum, excessive foot pronation or lg LF epicondyle

Femorotibial Knee Dislocation

- Relatively rare
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Hyperextension injuries
- ACL, PCL, MCL or LCL
- Popliteal artery injury

Femorotibial Knee Dislocation



Femorotibial Knee Dislocation



Dislocation: Vascular Thrombosis



Knee MRI

Specific Pathology menisci cruciate collateral ligaments cartilage **Bone Marrow Extensor Mechanism**

Cartilage Defect



Cartilage Flap



Loose Osteochondritis Dessicans





Knee MRI

Specific Pathology Menisci Cruciate Collateral ligaments Cartilage **Bone Marrow Extensor Mechanism**

Twisted knee



Lateral Plateau fracture



16 yo Female Cheerleader



15 yo female OCD in MFC



Osteochondritis Dissecans

- Adolescents
- Probable shear stress injury
- Bone failure may progress to cartilage failure





Extensor Mechanism









Lateral

Medial

Insall-Salvati

A/B =.8-1.2



19 yo w chronic PF pain





16 yo female acute trauma







Rutgers Football player w MPFL tear




14 yo male OSD w/ acute fall



Next Case Acute Trauma



Patella Sleeve Fracture

- Avulsion of Sleeve of Cartilage from main Patellar body
- Forced flexion against resistance
- Tx: Surgical



Knee MRI

MRI is the non invasive modality of choice for depicting the internal structures of the knee Including: Menisci Cartilage Ligments Tendon

Marrow

