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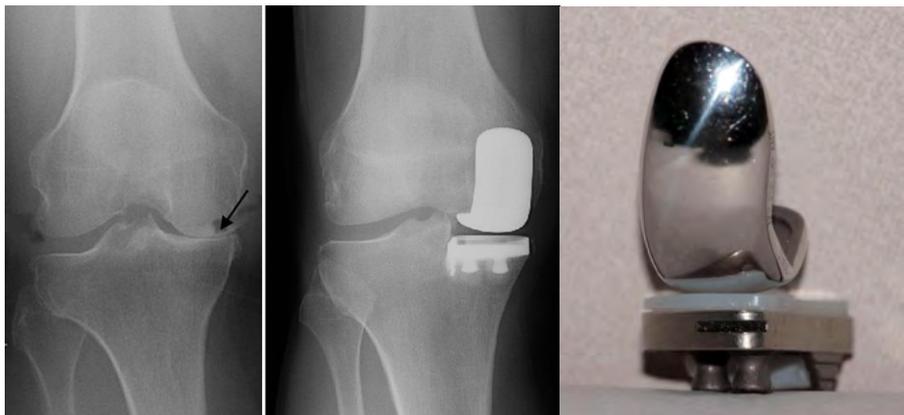
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Unicompartment Knee Replacement – why consider one

This procedure is an alternative to total knee replacement for patients whose disease is limited to just one area of the knee.

Partial knee replacement typically involves replacing one of the following:

- Medial compartment (the inside part of the knee)
- Lateral compartment (the outside part)
- Patellofemoral compartment (the front of the knee involving the knee cap)



Advantages of Unicompartment Knee Replacement (compared to total knee replacement)

- Quicker recovery and return to activities
- Less pain after surgery
- Lower complication rate around time of surgery
- Shorter hospital stay
- More 'natural/normal' feeling knee
- Possibly better knee flexion



Disadvantages of Partial Knee Replacement

- Reduced survivorship of implant with greater likelihood of further surgery

Candidates for surgery

In order to be a candidate for unicompartment knee replacement your arthritis must be limited to one compartment of your knee. In addition, if you have any of the following characteristics, you may not be eligible for the procedure:

- Inflammatory arthritis
- Significant knee stiffness
- Significant knee/leg deformity
- Ligament damage

With proper patient selection, modern unicompartment knee replacements have demonstrated excellent medium- and long-term results in both younger and older patients.



Fellow of the Royal Australasian
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