Arthroscopic lavage and debridement for patients with osteoarthritis of the knee

Arthroscopic lavage with or without debridement WILL NOT be funded as part of the treatment pathway for osteoarthritis unless the person has knee osteoarthritis with a clear history of mechanical locking (not gelling, morning joint stiffness, ‘giving way’, or X-ray evidence of loose bodies).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strength of evidence</th>
<th>Clinical Effectiveness</th>
<th>Cost Effectiveness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
<td>Inadequate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comments: The NICE evidence review undertaken for CG177 identified eight relevant RCTs none of which supported a statistically significant positive impact on any outcome measure.

Summary of evidence

NICE IPG230, Arthroscopic washout, with or without debridement, for the treatment of osteoarthritis (2007)
https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/IPG230

NICE CG177: Osteoarthritis care and management (2014)
https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg177

Thames Valley Priorities Committee Commissioning Policy Statement, Policy No.182b (TVPC6), Arthroscopic lavage and debridement for patients with osteoarthritis of the knee (2014)

Reason for Requesting a policy recommendation:

Reviewed as part of the Effective Use of Resources Project.

Where a patient is considered to have exceptional need for and capacity to benefit from a treatment that is not routinely funded, a request for individual funding may be made to the Individual Funding Requests Panel. The patient must be made aware that the Panel may not support the request and must not be given any expectation that they will be able to have the treatment until a decision to fund has been received in writing from the Panel.
For further information contact:

Tel: +44 (0)1624 642646
Email: clinicalcommissioning.dhsc@gov.im
Website: www.gov.im/dhscclinicalcommissioning