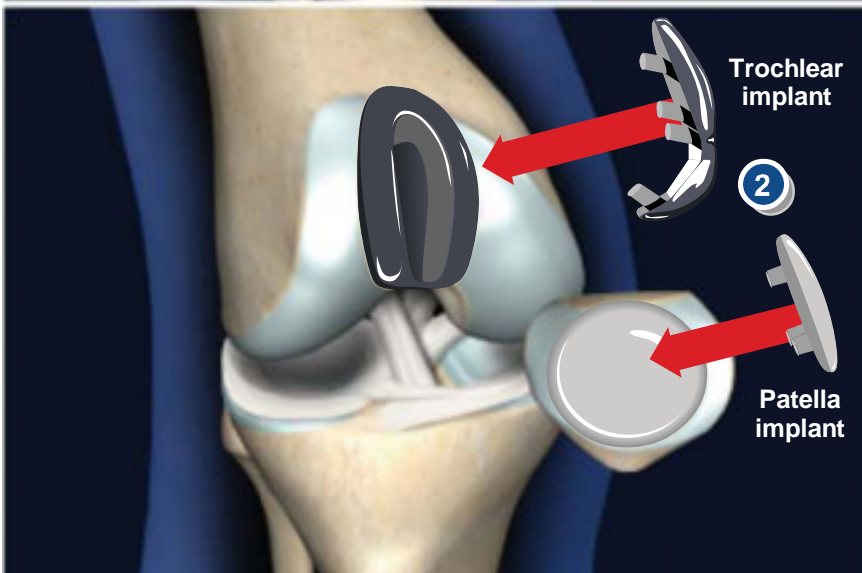
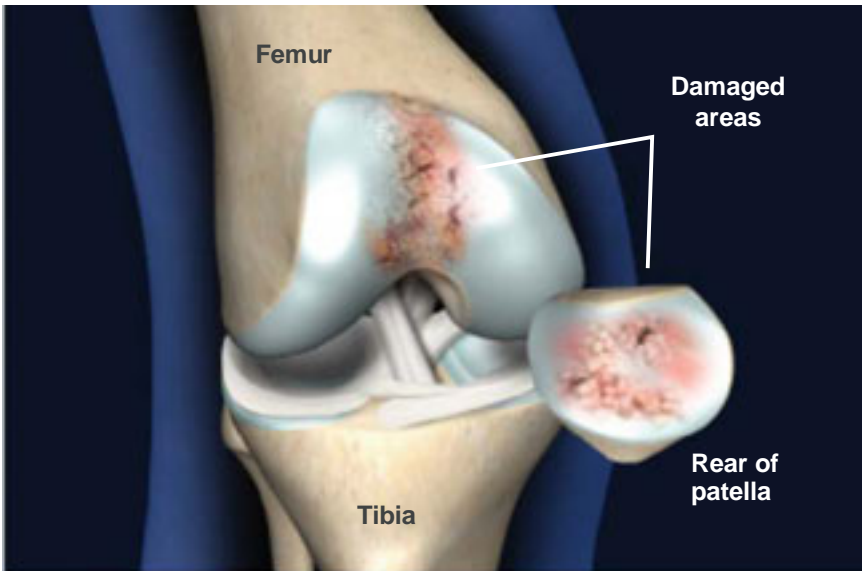


PATELLOFEMORAL REPLACEMENT



Overview

This surgical procedure removes portions of damaged cartilage on the femur in the knee joint that have been rubbing against the underside of the patella, causing pain and loss of mobility. This cartilage is then replaced with a specially-designed implant.

Preparation

The patient is positioned so that the front of the knee is clearly visible to the physician, and the area is cleaned and sterilized. An IV is administered for general anesthesia.

Accessing the Knee Joint

An incision is made on the front of the knee just to the side of the knee cap to allow access to the knee joint. The patella is moved to the side and the joint is examined.

Preparing the Joint

The damaged condyle around the trochlear groove of the femur is removed. Damaged areas on the back of the patella are also removed.

Inserting the Implants

Cement is applied to the cleaned area of the trochlear groove, and the metal implant is pressed into place. Cement is applied to the back of the patella and the plastic implant is pressed into place.

End of Procedure and Aftercare

The knee is reassembled. The incision is closed with sutures or surgical staples, and the knee is bandaged. A hospital stay is necessary, and patients will receive physical therapy. Patients may begin putting weight on the knee immediately.