TITLE: Arthroscopy For The Knee: Clinical And Cost-Effectiveness

DATE: 21 January 2011

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of arthroscopy for the knee?
2. What is the cost effectiveness of arthroscopy for the knee?

KEY MESSAGE

Most studies suggest that for treatment of osteoarthritis of the knee or meniscal repair of the knee, the addition of arthroscopy to physiotherapy, exercise, and medication provides no extra benefit. No economic studies were identified.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key health technology assessment resources, including PubMed, the Cochrane Library (Issue 12, 2010), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, ECRI (Health Devices Gold), EuroScan, international health technology agencies, and a focused Internet search. The search was limited to English language articles published between January 1, 2006 and January 1, 2011. Filters were applied to limit the retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, and economic studies. Internet links were provided, where available.

RESULTS

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials and economic evaluations.
The literature search identified one systematic review and six randomized controlled trials. No health technology assessments or economic evaluations were identified. Additional articles of potential interest are included in the appendix.

**Health technology assessments**
No literature identified.

**Systematic reviews and meta-analyses**


**Randomized controlled trials**


**Economic evaluations**
No literature identified.

**PREPARED BY:**
Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health
Tel: 1-866-898-8439
www.cadth.ca
APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Systematic reviews with surgical comparators or no comparators


Non-randomized studies


Guidelines and recommendations


Review articles


