



Case Study: Capitellum Cartilage Restoration Using a Fresh OCA Core

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BACKGROUND

The patient, who was 18 years old at the time of surgery, had a prior retroarticular decompression done about one year to 18 months prior. His cartilage was noted to be soft at that time. After his index surgery, he continued to have pain and mechanical symptoms. A follow up MRI showed a full thickness chondral defect as well as subchondral sclerosis.

PROGNOSIS

His MRI showed a defect approximately one square cm in his capitellum. Given the prior surgery and subchondral sclerosis, micro fracture was ruled out. OATS (Osteochondral Autograft Transfer System) was offered but the patient preferred to not violate his healthy knee. A pre-shaped 10mm fresh osteochondral allograft (OCA) core was offered instead, which the patient preferred.

PROCEDURE

The small joint Arthrex OATS[®] kit and included reamer was used to prepare the recipient site and the graft was manually placed in the defect and gently tamped into place.

RESULTS

The patient noted resolution of mechanical symptoms and pain as early as the first follow up visit. At six months post-operative, he continues to be asymptomatic.

SUMMARY

Using fresh OCA Cores is a great option for focal lesions of the capitellum. The Cores provide complete replacement with viable intact osteochondral allograft without donor site morbidity. This is a single step treatment with no patient size matching required utilizing existing instrumentation.

ABOUT DR. J. LEE PACE, M.D.

Dr. Pace's interests and expertise lie in the treatment of injuries unique to pediatric, adolescent and young adult athletes. Dr. Pace's clinical interests include, but are not limited to, injuries of the knee, hip, shoulder, elbow, ankle, and foot. He completed medical school at Boston University as well as an orthopedic surgery residency in Seattle at the University of Washington. Now firmly entrenched back in Los Angeles, Dr. Pace is the director of the Sports Medicine Program at Children's Hospital as well as one of the team physicians for the LA Galaxy soccer team.

ABOUT JRF ORTHO

JRF Ortho is the industry leader focusing on the best products, innovative solutions, and superior customer care. Our goal is to provide innovative solutions for allograft joint repair to orthopedic surgeons who specialize in helping patients regain movement and improve their quality of life; thus, JRF Ortho is redefining the standard for allograft joint repair and maximizing the gift of donation. Our unique member relationship with AlloSource[®] and Community Tissue Services[®] (CTS) enables us to offer the largest selection of specialized high-viability fresh osteochondral grafts, tendons and menisci in the industry.