**Provider Checklist-Outpatient –Imaging**

**Checklist: Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) Knee**

**(CPT Code: 73721, 73722, 73723)**

All Indications [**\*One has to be present**]

**\***Acute knee pain secondary to trauma [**Both have to be present**]

Sx/findings at knee [**Two have to be present**]

Joint effusion/swelling

Limited ROM

Acute muscle spasm limiting PE

No fracture by x−ray

**\***Suspected unstable meniscal tear [**One has to be present**]

Knee locking by Hx/PE

McMurray's test positive

**\***Suspected stable meniscal tear by Sx/findings [**Both have to be present**]

Knee Sx/findings [**Two have to be present**]

Effusion by PE

Joint line tenderness

Pain with flexion and rotation

Continued Sx/findings after Rx [**All have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx ≥ 3 wks

-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT ≥ 4 wks

Activity modification ≥ 4 wks

**\***Suspected cruciate ligament injury [**Both have to be present**]

Knee giving way by Hx

Grade II/III instability of ACL/PCL by PE

**\***Suspected multiligamentous injury [**Both have to be present**]

Grade II/III instability by PE [**One has to be present**]

LCL

MCL

Posterolateral complex

Grade II/III instability of ACL/PCL by PE

**\***Suspected LCL injury with grade II/III instability of LCL by PE

**\***Suspected MCL injury [**Both have to be present**]

Grade II/III instability of MCL by PE

Continued instability after Rx [**Both have to be present**]

Brace ≥ 6 wks

Activity modification ≥ 6 wks

**\***Knee complaints, unknown etiology [**All have to be present**]

Sx/findings [**One has to be present**]

Joint pain

Limited ROM

Crepitus

Joint line tenderness

Effusion by PE

Giving way by Hx

Knee x−ray nondiagnostic for etiology of Sx/findings

Continued Sx/findings after Rx [**All have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx ≥ 3 wks

-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT ≥ 4 wks

Activity modification ≥ 4 wks

**\***Suspected intra−articular loose body [**All have to be present**]

Symptoms at knee [**One has to be present**]

Joint pain

Locking

Giving way by Hx

Findings at knee [**Two have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM

Limited ROM

Clicking

Knee x−ray nondiagnostic for loose body

**\***Suspected osteochondritis dissecans [**All have to be present**]

Symptoms at knee [**One has to be present**]

Joint pain

Giving way by Hx

Findings at knee [**Two have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM

Limited ROM

Clicking

Effusion by PE

Knee x−ray nondiagnostic for osteochondritis dissecans

**\***Suspected tumor involving soft tissue [**One has to be present**]

Bone tumor eroding through cortex by x−ray

Palpable periarticular/intra−articular mass with negative x−ray

**\***Suspected avascular necrosis (osteonecrosis), knee [**All have to be present**]

Knee pain

Pain with passive ROM

Location [**One has to be present**]

Femoral condyle

Tibial plateau

Knee x−ray nondiagnostic for avascular necrosis

Continued pain after Rx [**Both have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx ≥ 4 wks

-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT ≥ 6 wks

**\***Suspected quadriceps tendon injury [**All have to be present**]

Injury to the area by Hx

Symptoms [**Both have to be present**]

Pain in suprapatellar area

Inability to actively extend knee/bear weight

Findings [**All have to be present**]

Pain with passive ROM

Tender quadriceps tendon

No palpable defect in tendon

No patellar fracture by x−ray

**\***Suspected Baker's cyst [**All have to be present**]

Pain in posteromedial knee increased with activity

No locking/giving way by Hx

Findings [**Both have to be present**]

Popliteal mass

Knee exam otherwise normal

US nondiagnostic for Baker's cyst

Continued Sx/findings after Rx [**Both have to be present**]

NSAID [**One has to be present**]

-1 Rx ≥ 4 wks

-2 Contraindicated/not tolerated

PT ≥ 6 wks

**\***Suspected osteomyelitis [**Both have to be present**]

Findings [**One has to be present**]

ESR > 30 mm/hr

Temperature > 100.4 F(38.0 C)

WBC > 10,000/cu.mm(10x109/L)

Blood culture positive

C−reactive protein > 10 mg/L

Knee x−ray nondiagnostic for osteomyelitis