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# Ontario's Referral and Listing Criteria for Fresh Tissue Transplantation

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Version 1.0

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# Fresh Tissue Transplantation Referral & Listing Criteria

## PATIENT REFERRAL CRITERIA:

The patient referral criteria are guidelines which a Medical Practitioner would utilize to refer a patient to an orthopedic surgeon for assessment. The criteria identified below are the agreed upon conditions for which a patient should be referred for consultation or referred for fresh tissue (fresh osteochondral allograft) transplant assessment.

- 1) **Joint Preservation:** Referral for fresh tissue transplantation should be considered for patients who require restoration of the synovial joint structure and/or function having failed non-operative measures.
  - Patients should be referred for surgery before secondary changes occur in the non-traumatized side of lesion.

## PATIENT LISTING INDICATIONS:

Each patient is assessed individually for their suitability for fresh tissue transplantation by the transplant surgeon. Eligibility for fresh tissue transplantation should be determined on medical and surgical grounds. Criteria for eligibility should be transparent and made available to patients and the public. Eligibility should not be based on social status, gender, race, age alone or personal or public appeal.

The criteria identified below are the agreed upon conditions for which a patient may be eligible to be waitlisted for fresh tissue transplantation in Ontario.

- 1) **General:** Patients with the following conditions of synovial joints may be considered for fresh tissue transplantation:
  - Post-traumatic osteochondral defects of knee, hip, shoulder, ankle, or elbow
  - Osteochondritis dissecans (OCD) of the knee, hip and ankle
  - Avascular necrosis of the femoral head, femoral condyles, and talus
- 2) **Failed Treatment:** Failed cartilage repair procedures of the knee.

### **ABSOLUTE LISTING CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

The following are conditions relating to the fresh tissue transplant candidate that constitute absolute contraindications to fresh tissue transplantation. As such, they prevent a transplant from being done until the condition is resolved.

- 1) **Consent:** Patients who do not want a transplant, or who are unable to give informed consent and no substitute decision maker is available are not candidates for transplantation.

### **RELATIVE LISTING CONTRAINDICATIONS:**

The following are conditions relating to the fresh tissue transplant candidate that constitute relative contraindications to fresh tissue transplantation. While each patient is evaluated on an individual basis, the presence of one or more of the following may preclude a candidate from being listed on the fresh tissue transplantation wait list.

- 1) **Age:** Patients older than 50 years old may not be eligible for fresh tissue transplantation.
- 2) **Comorbid Conditions:** Patients with the following comorbid conditions may not be eligible for fresh tissue transplantation:
  - Inflammatory joint disease
  - Osteoarthritis affecting the entire joint
  - Morbid obesity
  - Previous infection in same joint
  - Uncorrected malalignment or uncorrected ligamentous instability
- 3) **Medical Suitability:** Patients who are receiving chemotherapy treatment, taking maintenance steroids, or immunosuppression drugs may not be eligible for fresh tissue transplantation. Patients who also have altered bone metabolism as a result of smoking, chronic steroid use, and alcohol abuse may not be eligible for fresh tissue transplantation.

**Version Control:**

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