# Partial Meniscectomy for Meniscus Tear: Systematic Review

<sup>1</sup>Faisal Jameel Filfilan, <sup>2</sup>Hussam Salem Aljehani, <sup>3</sup>Amro Mohammad Rambo,
<sup>4</sup>Ahmed Abdulhamid Aljahdali, <sup>5</sup>Abdulaziz Dhaifallah Alzahrani,
<sup>6</sup>Abdullah Naif Alsulaimani, <sup>7</sup>Abdulrahman Ahmad Alnaser

*Abstract:* The main goal of this systematic review study was to discuss the Partial meniscectomy for meniscus tear from different perspectives, benefits over other methods, and outcomes. A review of the literature with use of the Medline database was carried out including look for the keywords "meniscus," "meniscal," "menisci," and "meniscectomy." The research studies were limited to human research study and to publications released approximately December 2016.Partial meniscectomy, stitches and meniscal allograft transplant strategies, as well as the most recent approaches developed, are really utilized. Meniscectomy leads to increase in peak tensions on the tibial plateau and this is straight correlated with the amount of tissue got rid of. Rehabilitation protocols for the resumption of sporting activities after surgery depend carefully on type of meniscal tear and surgery, specifically in the preliminary post-operative stage.

Keywords: Partial Meniscectomy, Meniscus, Meniscal, Menisci.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Knee joint is composed of incongruent articular surfaces, for that reason it counts on other structures to offer both fixed and vibrant stability: anterior and posterior cruciate ligaments, the medial and lateral collateral ligaments, the menisci, the capsule and the muscles crossing the joint. The menisci are two wedge formed (in cross-section), semilunar fibrocartilage structures and are connected to the tibia, to the femur and to the patella. Median meniscus appears 'C' formed while the lateral meniscus appears more 'O' formed <sup>(1)</sup>. Fibrochondrocytes are situated in menisci's inner portion and produce extracellular matrix. Fibroblasts are positioned in menisci's outer portion and synthesize collagen and proteoglycans. This microstructure identifies the physical-chemical properties of the meniscus: strength and stretch-, compression- and loadresistance (2). The meniscus functions to improves load distribution on knee joint and prevents the onset of early joint damages part of the tibiofemoral joint that increases the surface area for load transmission (3,4). The meniscus likewise functions as a secondary anterior-posterior stabilizer of the knee joint, <sup>(5,6,7)</sup> aids in proprioception,16 and adds to the lubrication<sup>(8)</sup> and nutrition<sup>(9)</sup> of the articular cartilage. Scientific studies comparing partial and total meniscectomy have documented the useful effects of meniscus conservation. Significantly more knee degeneration and osteoarthritis have actually been shown in knees with total meniscectomy in contrast to partial meniscectomy (10). An inverse relation has been shown between function of the knee and quantity of meniscal tissue resected <sup>(11)</sup>. The recognition of the protective function of the meniscus has led to efforts to maintain as much meniscal tissue as possible. Meniscal surgical treatments are the most typically carried out procedures in orthopaedics<sup>(11)</sup>. The current primary alternatives for arthroscopic meniscal surgical treatment are partial meniscectomy or meniscal repair work. In the Western world, as lots of as 300 in 100 000 people undergo arthroscopic partial meniscectomy annually <sup>(12,13,14)</sup>. In Denmark, the surgery rate doubled from 2000 to 2011, (15) with 3 out of four patients aged more than 35 years.4 In these patients, the majority of meniscal tears are degenerative and might be considered as the first sign of osteoarthritis <sup>(16)</sup>.

As reported in many research studies, lateral meniscus has a higher articular surface and is therefore more thinking about absorption and load transmission. It is also more mobile and is less vulnerable to fracture than median meniscus (17).

Vol. 4, Issue 2, pp: (961-965), Month: October 2016 - March 2017, Available at: www.researchpublish.com

Jackson and Dandy's category is the most commonly used for meniscal sores (18) (**Table 1**) (19). Sores may be insufficient, asymptomatic and typically superficial, total, stable or unstable <sup>(19)</sup>.

Type of lesion	Comment
Longitudinal lesion	Typical of the third decade Most frequent meniscal injuries As reported by Pellacci, longitudinal lesions represent 29% of all medial lesions and 33% of all lateral lesions
Bucket-handle lesion	A complete longitudinal lesion can become a bucket-handle lesion. Frequent in medial meniscus
Oblique tears (or flap)	Generally, in the region between 1/3 back and 1/3 medium of the meniscus
Complex lesions	Typically produced by repeated knee trauma
Radial lesions	Usually originate from the free side to periphery
Horizontal tears	Degenerative lesions involving meniscus intramural portion

## **Table1:** Type of meniscal tears <sup>(19)</sup>.

Meniscal tears are When they involve less than 50% of total density, called stable. Longitudinal sores smaller than 1 cm or radial tears localized in 1/3 of the internal meniscus are belonging to this group. Usually they do not require specific treatment <sup>(20)</sup>. As described by Arnoczy and Warren, lateral region is well vascularized and for that reason heals better after fracture. Longitudinal tears have higher recovery potential than radial tears, in addition to simple than complex lacerations and distressing ruptures than degenerative tears <sup>(21)</sup>.

The main goal of this systematic review study was to discuss the Partial meniscectomy for meniscus tear from different perspectives, benefits over other methods, and outcomes.

# 2. METHODOLOGY

We performed a systematic literature review of partial meniscectomy in patients with meniscal tear.

## Search Methods:

A review of the literature with use of the Medline database was carried out including look for the keywords "meniscus," "meniscal," "menisci," and "meniscectomy." The research studies were limited to human research study and to publications released approximately December 2016.

A first-stage screening was carried out on the titles and abstracts related to our requirements. Full-text short articles for the research studies meeting our study function were consisted of. Bibliographies of the studies recognized through this search approach were by hand looked for extra research studies that had not been formerly identified. All information was extracted from selected posts through a standardized electronic form.

## 3. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

#### Surgical procedure of partial meniscectomy:

Partial (16–34%) meniscectomy has actually been shown to cause a > 350% boost in contact forces on the articular cartilage <sup>(22,23)</sup>. Partial meniscectomy varies knee biomechanics: the peak regional contact pressure is increased by 65%, while after overall meniscectomy peak contact pressure is 235% of typical. A median meniscectomy reduces contact location by 50% to 70% and contact tension boosts by 100%, while lateral meniscectomy reduces contact location by 40% to 50% however contact stress boosts by 200% to 300% secondary to the convex surface area of the associated lateral tibial plateau <sup>(24)</sup>. As reported by Metcalf, nevertheless, this surgical treatment likewise bears heavily on degenerative joint disorders <sup>(25)</sup>. Partial meniscectomy is indicated for flap tears, radial tears in the inner or a vascular location, and horizontal cleavage tears <sup>(26)</sup>.

Favorable prognostic factors are: age < 40 years, one easy lesion (pail manage, flap, radial), short time expired in between trauma and surgical treatment, minimal chondromalacia <sup>(26)</sup>. Risk factors for developing knee OA are: patients older than 40 years, irregular bones positioning and lateral in respect to medial meniscectomy <sup>(24)</sup>.

Vol. 4, Issue 2, pp: (961-965), Month: October 2016 - March 2017, Available at: www.researchpublish.com

## Total Versus Partial Meniscectomy:

We have identified four studies (10,27,28,29) that compare partial to total meniscectomy program a considerably increased risk of developing radiographic knee OA in the total meniscectomy group when compared to the partial meniscectomy group <sup>(10,27,28,29)</sup>. Hede et al, <sup>(11,30,31)</sup> in the only randomized regulated trial on the subject, discovered no considerable difference in radiographic results in between patients randomly assigned to go through partial or total meniscectomy at any of the time points from 2 months approximately the last 7.8 years' typical follow-up. Englund et al <sup>(16)</sup> discovered subtotal meniscectomy patients with degenerative tears to have considerably even worse Knee Injury and Osteoarthritis Outcome Scores (KOOS) (P. 02), Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index (WOMAC) ratings for pain (P 5.02), increased stiffness (P 5.009), and decreased knee function (P 5.007) compared with those with partial meniscectomy. At 1-year follow-up, Hede et al (30) found the partial meniscectomy group to have significantly less symptoms than the total meniscectomy group (P 5.029). This distinction was not seen to persist at the mean 7.8 years' follow-up when there was no considerable distinction between the groups in symptoms <sup>(11,39,31)</sup>. There was a negative connection with the amount of meniscus removed and knee joint function (P 5.04) with getting worse function seen with larger parts of the meniscus removed. Those in the partial meniscectomy group had substantially higher Lysholm ratings (P 5.03) and were found to be more steady, with less mediolateral laxity (P 5.007) as compared to the overall meniscectomy group. There was no significant distinction between the 2 groups in anteroposterior instability at 90 of flexion (P 5.053)<sup>(11,31)</sup>. Bonneux and Vadekerckhove<sup>(27)</sup> discovered patients with isolated lateral meniscal tears who went through subtotal meniscectomy had substantially lower International Knee Documentation Committee (IKDC) subjective knee ratings (P 5.0005) and Lysholm ratings (P 5.02) compared with limited partial meniscectomy patients. This further supports the theory that increased loss of meniscus tissue causes intensifying function. Andersson-Molina et al<sup>(10)</sup> found no substantial difference in practical knee rating between overall and partial groups; nevertheless, both had significantly lower Lysholm scores than their matched controls. They discovered no difference in activity level, anteroposterior displacement, muscle strength, or knee positioning <sup>(10,16)</sup>. Subjective knee function revealed 89% of partial and 94% of overall meniscectomy groups had no or minor complaints postoperatively. Nevertheless, there was substantially reduced variety of motion in overall meniscectomy knees ( $P \setminus .01$ ) as compared with the contralateral knee <sup>(10)</sup>. Englund et al <sup>(16)</sup> found no substantial difference in patient-oriented results in partial, subtotal, or overall meniscectomy groups.

## Meniscectomy Versus Repair:

Shelbourne and Dersam <sup>(32)</sup> compared partial meniscectomy to meniscal repair for bucket-handle meniscal tears in ACLreconstructed knees. They reported no significant difference in the advancement of radiographic OA in between the 2 groups (P 5.7731). Subjective outcomes as determined by the Noyes ranking system showed no significant distinction in between the 2 treatment groups (P 5.2014). The repair work group did have substantially much better ratings on the scale for pain than the removal group (P 5.0478). No substantial difference was discovered on the subscales for swelling (P 5.8078), stability (P 5.5083), and activity level (P 5.0732) in between the repair and removal groups. The objective IKDC evaluation revealed no significant distinction between the repair work and partial meniscectomy groups (P 5.0947). Shelbourne and Carr <sup>(33)</sup> reported no considerable distinction in total IKDC ratings between meniscectomy and meniscal repair work (P 5.75) and did not find a distinction in subjective outcomes as measured by the Noyes score (P 5.634).

## **Rehabilitation after partial meniscectomy:**

After partial meniscectomy rehab protocol can be aggressive, because in the knee joint anatomical structure must not be protected during the healing phase. Early goals after surgical treatment are: control of pain and swelling, optimum knee variety of movement (ROM) and a full load walking. There is no load constraint, compatibly with the tolerance of the patient <sup>(26)</sup>.

The corrective treatment includes ice-ultrasound therapy, friction massage, joint mobilization, calf raises, steps-ups, extensor workout, bike ergometry <sup>(34)</sup>. Moffet et al. reported in a study of 31 topics the significance of extensor muscles knee reinforcement (35). Isokinetic screening data have actually shown substantial strength deficits of the knee extensor muscles: Mattheus and St Pierre assessed muscle strength with isokinetic test prior to and after surgery. They found that muscle strength returns equal to preoperative state just 4-6 weeks after surgical treatment and it is still minimized compared to non-injured limb approximately 12 weeks <sup>(36)</sup>. In a sportsman, rehab plays a key function in bring back as quickly as possible quadriceps' typical strength in both legs before returning to competitions. Goodwin et al. <sup>(34)</sup> showed as patients who get overseen rehab treatment get the very same results in regards to lifestyle (SF-36) and knee function than those who do not get this treatment (fluctuating stairs, joint ROM) as much as 6 weeks after surgical treatment. On

Vol. 4, Issue 2, pp: (961-965), Month: October 2016 - March 2017, Available at: www.researchpublish.com

the other hand, in a randomized, controlled research study, Moffet et al <sup>(35)</sup> revealed that patients who received monitored rehab had more rapid healing of the quadriceps femoris muscle than patients in a without supervision control group <sup>(35)</sup>.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Types of meniscal tear, patient's functional requirements, state of the joint prior to surgery, healing time and compliance/motivation of the patient are factors that orient at the type of surgery and rehab program. Surgery is normally shown in patients under 50 years or otherwise physically active. Partial meniscectomy, stitches and meniscal allograft transplant strategies, as well as the most recent approaches developed, are really utilized. Meniscectomy leads to increase in peak tensions on the tibial plateau and this is straight correlated with the amount of tissue got rid of. Rehabilitation protocols for the resumption of sporting activities after surgery depend carefully on type of meniscal tear and surgery, specifically in the preliminary post-operative stage. The rehab treatment starts from the first postoperative day with the pharmacological pain control, the resolution of swelling and private workouts programs, to bring back, as soon as possible and carefully, knee joint mobility, muscular forces, and physiological gait

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Greys PE, et al. Lesioni Meniscali: scienza di base e valutazione. J AAOS. 2003;8(2):5–16.
- [2] Messner K, Gao J. The menisci of the knee joint. Anatomical and functional characteristics, and a rationale for clinical treatment. J Anat. 1998;193(Pt 2):161–178.
- [3] Maquet PG, Van de Berg AJ, Simonet JC. Femorotibial weight-bearing areas. Experimental determination. J Bone Joint Surg Am 1975;57:766-771.
- [4] Ahmed AM, Burke DL. In-vitro measurement of static pressure distribution in synovial joints—Part I: Tibial surface of the knee. J Biomech Eng 1983;105:216-225
- [5] Hollis JM, Pearsall AW, Niciforos PG. Change in meniscal strain with anterior cruciate ligament injury and after reconstruction. Am J Sports Med 2000;28:700-704.
- [6] Allen CR, Wong EK, Livesay GA, et al. Importance of the medial meniscus in the anterior cruciate ligamentdeficient knee. J Orthop Res 2000;18:109-115.
- [7] Hsieh HH, Walker PS. Stabilizing mechanisms of the loaded and unloaded knee joint. J Bone Joint Surg Am 1976;58: 87-93.
- [8] MacConaill MA. The movements of bones and joints; the synovial fluid and its assistants. J Bone Joint Surg Br 1950; 32:244-252.
- [9] Renström P, Johnson RJ. Anatomy and biomechanics of the menisci. Clin Sports Med 1990;9:523-538.
- [10] Andersson-Molina H, Karlsson H, Rockborn P. Arthroscopic partial and total meniscectomy: A long-term follow-up study with matched controls. Arthroscopy 2002;18:183-189.
- [11] Hede A, Larsen E, Sandberg H. Partial versus total meniscectomy. A prospective, randomised study with long-term follow-up. J Bone Joint Surg Br 1992;74:118-121.
- [12] Abrams GD, Frank RM, Gupta AK, Harris JD, McCormick FM, Cole BJ. Trends in meniscus repair and meniscectomy in the United States, 2005-2011.
- [13] Lohmander LS, Englund PM, Dahl LL, Roos EM. The long-term consequence of anterior cruciate ligament and meniscus injuries: osteoarthritis.
- [14] Reigstad O, Grimsgaard C. Complications in knee arthroscopy. Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc2006;14:473-7.
- [15] Thorlund JB, Hare KB, Lohmander LS. Large increase in arthroscopic meniscus surgery in the middle-aged and older population in Denmark from 2000 to 2011. Acta Orthop2014;85:287-92.
- [16] Englund M. The role of the meniscus in osteoarthritis genesis. Med Clin North Am2009;93:37-43, x. doi
- [17] Masouros SD, Amis AA. Biomechanics of the meniscus-meniscal ligament construct of the knee. Knee Surg Sports Traumatol Arthrosc. 2008;16(12):1121–1132.

Vol. 4, Issue 2, pp: (961-965), Month: October 2016 - March 2017, Available at: www.researchpublish.com

- [18] Jackson RW, Dandy DJ. Arthroscopy of the knee. Grune Stratton; New York: 1976.
- [19] Pellacci F, Zmerly H, Sacco G. Anatomia patologica dei menischi. J. Sports Traum. And related research. 1997;19:2–5.
- [20] Weiss CB, et al. Non operative treatment of meniscal tears. J Bone Joint Surg Am. 1989;71(6):811–822.
- [21] Arnoczky SP, Warren RF, McDevitt CA. Meniscal re-placement using a cryopreserved allograft. An exper-imental study in the dog. p. 252:121–128. Clin Orthop Relat Res. 1990;(252):121–128.
- [22] Makris EA, et al. The knee meniscus: Structuree-function, pathophysiology, current repairtechniques, and prospects for regeneration. Biomaterials. 2011;32(30):7411–7431.
- [23] Voloshin AS, Wosk J. Shock absorption of meniscec-tomized and painful knees: a comparative in vivo study. J Biomed Eng. 1983;5(2):157–161.
- [24] Salata MJ, Gibbs AE, Sekiya JK. A Systematic Review of Clinical Outcomes in Patients Undergoing Meniscectomy. Am J Sports Med. 2010;38(9):1907–1916.
- [25] Fauno P, Nielsen AB. Artroscopic partial meniscectomy: a long term follow-up. Arthroscopy. 1992;8(3):345–349.
- [26] Brindle T, Nyland J, Johnson DL. The Meniscus: Review of Basic Principles With Application to Surgery and Rehabilitation. J Athl Train. 2001;36(2):160–169.
- [27] Bonneux I, Vandekerckhove B. Arthroscopic partial lateral meniscectomy long-term results in athletes. Acta Ortop Belg. 2002;68: 356-361.
- [28] Englund M, Lohmander LS. Risk factors for symptomatic knee osteoarthritis fifteen to twenty-two years after meniscectomy. Arthritis Rheum. 2004;50:2811-2819.
- [29] Roos H, Lauren M, Adalberth T, Roos EM, Jonsson K, Lohmander LS. Knee osteoarthritis after meniscectomy: prevalence of radiographic changes after twenty-one years, compared with matched controls. Arthritis Rheum. 1998;41:687-693.
- [30] Hede A, Hejgaard N, Larsen E. Partial or total open meniscectomy? A prospective, randomized study. Int Orthop. 1986;10:105-108.
- [31] Hede A, Larsen E, Sandberg H. The long term outcome of open total and partial meniscectomy related to the quantity and site of the meniscus removed. Int Orthop. 1992;16:122-125.
- [32] Shelbourne KD, Dersam MD. Comparison of partial meniscectomy versus meniscus repair for bucket-handle lateral meniscus tears in anterior cruciate ligament reconstructed knees. Arthroscopy. 2004; 20:581-585.
- [33] Shelbourne KD, Carr DR. Meniscal repair compared with meniscectomy for bucket-handle medial mensical tears in anterior cruciate ligament-reconstructed knees. Am J Sports Med. 2003;31:718-723.
- [34] Goodwin PC, et al. *Effectiveness* of Supervised Physical Therapy in the Early Period After Arthroscopic Partial Meniscectomy. Phys Ther. 2003;83(6):520–535.
- [35] Moffet H, et al. Impact of knee extensor strength deficits on stair ascent performance in patients after medial meniscectomy. Scand J Rehabil Med. 1993;25(2):63–71.
- [36] Matthews P, St-Pierre DMM. J Recovery of muscle strength following arthroscopic meniscectomy. Orthop Sports Phys Ther. 1996;23(1):18–26.