# Knee problems that do <u>not</u> need to be sent to the hospital

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### Introduction

- Children / adult knee symptoms
- MRI report
- Media referrals
- Patient Expectation
- Clinical warranty



## In children

- Anterior knee pain
  - Analgesic / reassurance / physiotherapy
- MRI:
  - chondromalacia patella
  - Brodie's abscess
  - Bone bruising
- Unless
  - Hot swelling
  - Fixed flexion deformity after injury
  - More than 3 patellar dislocation

## Less active adults

- BMI above 35
  - Outcome is less satisfactory
- Pt does not want replacement surgery
  - Expectations are too high
  - Kneeling activity
  - Bearable symptoms
  - Looking for an injection
- Untreated Comorbidities
- Awaiting test results
- Generalized body ache / hip / back pain

# Active adults Symptoms

- Cracking sound
- Pain on kneeling
- Knee Pain after running
- Shin pain after running
- Anterior knee pain on strenuous activity
- Pain on stair climbing
- Morning stiffness
- Intermittent swelling + old injury / menisectomy
- Unless: SLOG
  - Swelling Locking Onset is sudden Giving way

# **GP** requested MRI

- Do you have a question for the radiologist?
  - "MRI is not a crystal ball"
  - Radiologists do not see patients
  - Static images of a dynamic joint
  - False negative- incorrect reassurance
- 'MRI fication'
- Default: ref to Ortho
- Bundle tariff
- Unavailable or inadequate films at appointment

# Active Adult MRI

#### Not for referrals

Bone bruising

Cartilage loss

Radial meniscal tear

Chondromalacia

Early degeneration

Patella Mal tracking

**Tendenosis** 

Osteonecrosis

OCD

Hamstring edema

#### For referral

- Bucket handle tear
- Loose body
- Grade 3 or severe ligament tear
- Damage to extensor mechanism
- ACL or PCL tear

Unless SLOG ¾ positive





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#### Half an hour with a drill meant I didn't need a new knee

By CAROLE DAVIS

PUBLISHED: 02:28, 11 June 2013 | UPDATED: 02:28, 11 June 2013













A new minimally invasive procedure could help tackle the early stages of knee arthritis. John Legg, 65, an engineer from Hoo in Kent, underwent the treatment in July 2011.

#### THE PATIENT

About four years ago I started having tearing pains down my right knee, especially when I'd been on my feet a lot. I have always been pretty active and it hurt to climb stairs or to use an exercise bike.

I assumed it was part of getting older, so put up with it. But it was getting worse, I'd go to bed with my knee aching, and sometimes the pain would wake me up. It even hurt to drive.

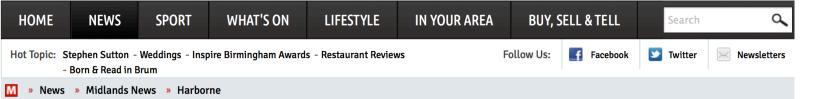
So in early 2011, a couple of years after the pain started, I saw my GP.

Commercially driven Propaganda

Ask the hospital

### BIRMINGHAM **MAIL**





Harborne grandfather taking on the London Marathon for

the 39th time - and on crutches!

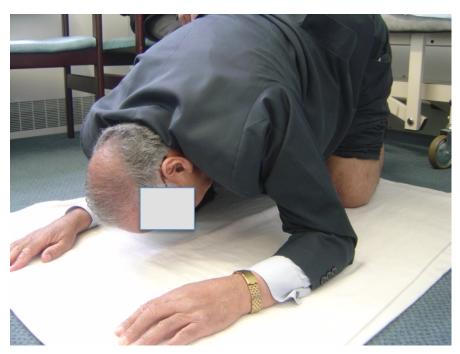
Apr 12, 2014 08:00 By **Zoe Chamberlain** 

Media hyped expectation



## Word of mouth

High expectations





### Who to refer to

- Hospital referral structure
  - Named referral / open referral details
- Hospital
  - DGH: Upper limb /lower limb surgeons / hand / Spine
  - Specialist hospital (ROH): Arthroscopy/ arthroplasty / Revision /spine/hand/foot

Better to choose "knee surgeon"

# Previously treated patient

- Surgical Warranty
- Phone consultant / secretary for urgent care
  - A/E is only for out of hours emergency

- Post op issues:
  - DVT
  - Wound infection
  - Wound break down

Thank you for listening

