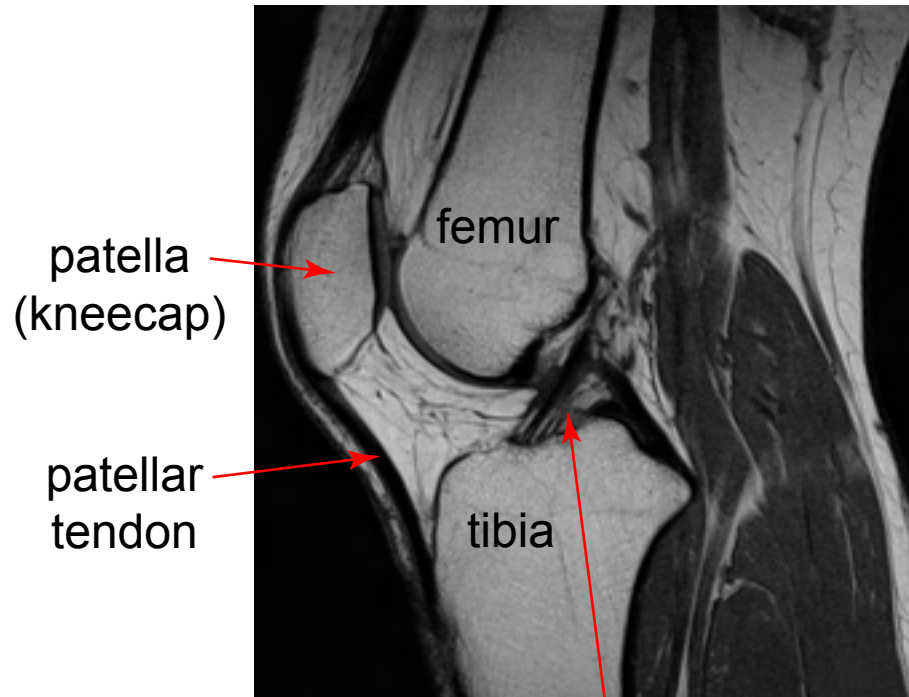
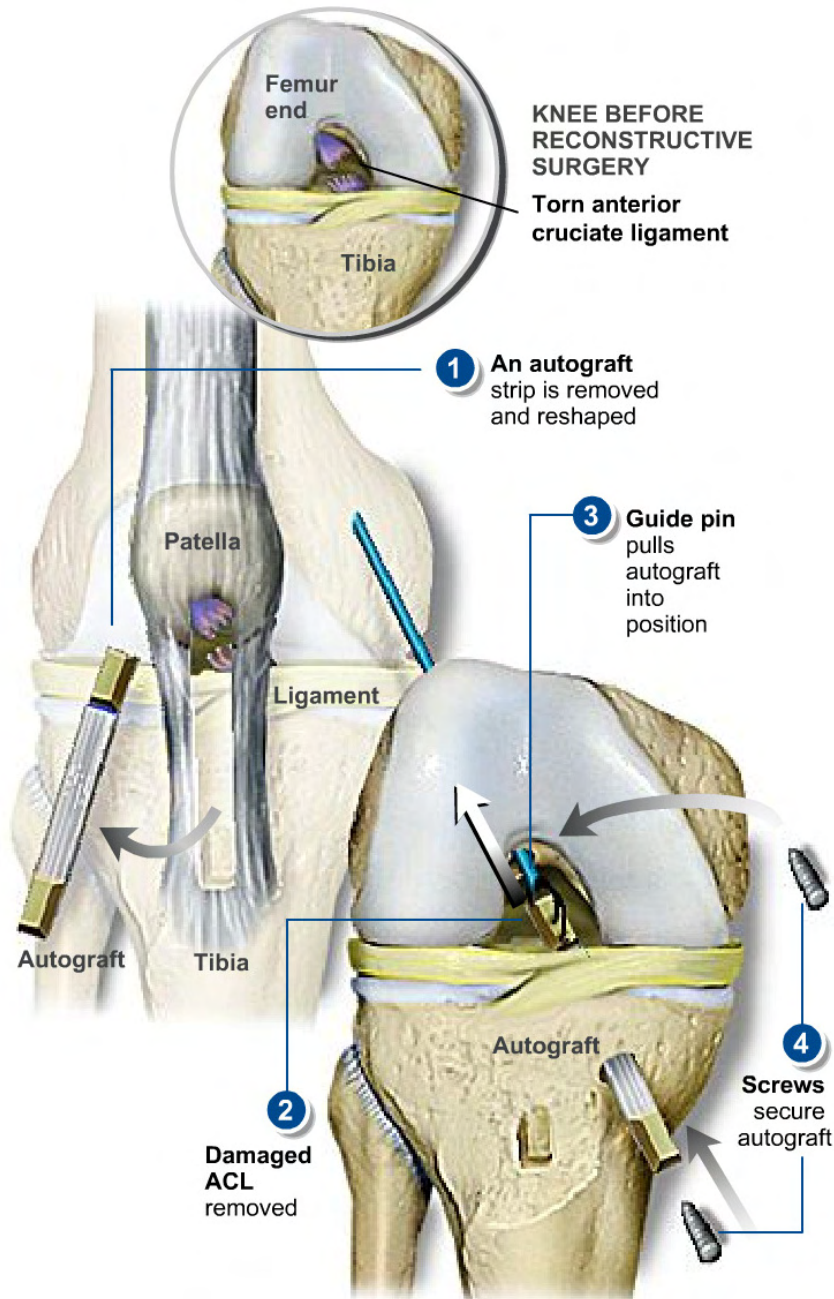


Anatomy of the Knee (MRI)



ACL reconstruction

This procedure replaces the damaged or torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). The ACL connects the front top of the lower leg bone, tibia to the rear bottom of the thigh bone, femur.



STEP 1

A strip from the patella (knee cap), ligament and tibia is removed. This section, called an autograft, is reshaped and is used to replace the torn ACL.

STEP 2

With the knee bent in an open position the damaged ACL is cleared away.

STEP 3

The autograft is attached to a guide pin and pulled into position through predrilled holes in the knee joint.

STEP 4

Special screws secure the autograft's bone ends to the femur and tibia.

STEP 5

The knee joint is tested for proper flexing, and the operation is complete.

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