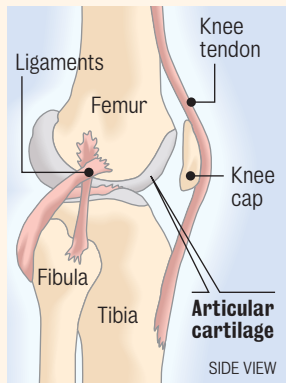


# GROWING YOUR OWN

A procedure developed in Sweden uses a patient's own knee cartilage to repair injuries

## ANATOMY OF THE KNEE

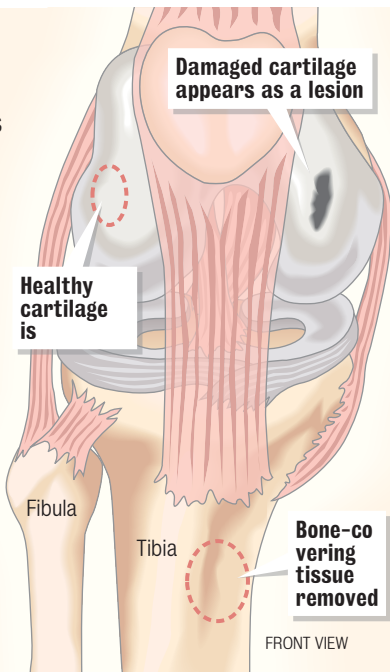
► The knee absorbs the weight of the body during walking or running.



Source: Genzyme Corp.

► Repeated strenuous activity over time or a serious injury can damage the articular cartilage, which doesn't heal naturally.

► Serious damage can cause chronic joint pain or hinder a person's mobility.



## THE CORRECTIVE PROCEDURE

Two surgeries are performed six weeks apart. Recovery can take a few months.

### Harvesting healthy cells:

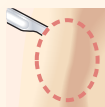


- 1 A small amount of cartilage, about the size of two breath mints, is removed and sent to a laboratory, where scientists extract as many as 600,000 cartilage cells and use them to grow more. This takes about six weeks.

### Injection of new cells:



- 2 An incision is made and the damaged cartilage is removed.



- 3 A thin piece of bone-covering tissue is removed from the tibia.



- 4 The tissue is sutured over the removed cartilage area.



- 5 A catheter injects about 12 million newly-grown cells into the area that will grow into near-cartilage.

STAFF GRAPHIC BY EMMETT MAYER III