Signs and Symptoms: Total knee arthroplasty

Sandel Thomson*

Hilaris SRL, Chaussee de la Hulpe 181, Box 21, 1170 Watermael-Boitsfort, Brussels, Belgium

Figure: The knee is made up of the lower end of the thighbone (femur), the upper end of the shinbone (tibia), and the kneecap (patella). The ends of these three bones are covered with articular cartilage, a smooth substance that protects the bones and enables them to move easily within the joint.

Cause
The most common cause of chronic knee pain and disability is arthritis. Although there are many types of arthritis, most knee pain is caused by just three types: osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, and post-traumatic arthritis.

Signs and symptoms
Severe knee pain or stiffness that limits everyday activities, including walking, climbing stairs, and getting in and out of chairs. ... Moderate or severe knee pain while resting, either day or night. Chronic knee inflammation and swelling that does not improve with rest or medications. Knee replacement surgery can result in physical complications ranging from pain and swelling to implant rejection, infection and bone fractures. Pain may be the most common complication following knee replacement. It's normal for patients to experience some degree of pain up to six months after surgery.

*Address for Correspondence: Thomson S, Managing Editor, Hilaris SRL, Chaussee de la Hulpe 181, Box 21, 1170 Watermael-Boitsfort, Brussels, Belgium, E-mail: publisher@hilarispublisher.com

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