

# Pain Management for Osteoarthritis

Hyaluronic acid is used to relieve joint pain caused by osteoarthritis of the knee, hip, shoulder or ankle.

Hyaluronic acid is an injectable synthetic version of the key ingredient of synovial fluid found naturally in the joint space. With osteoarthritis, the normal synovial fluid becomes dysfunctional, leading to friction and inflammation. By lubricating the joint, hyaluronic acid may reduce pain and restore joint flexibility and mobility, enhancing overall quality of life for patients.

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## What is involved?

The hyaluronic acid treatment is administered over three appointments, 1-2 weeks apart. At each appointment, the patient will receive a CT-guided injection of hyaluronic acid into the affected joint, performed in a sterile environment.

Patients typically see the greatest results on completion of all three injections, with benefits lasting up to six months. If required, the treatment can be repeated twice a year.

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## Who should not have a hyaluronic acid injection?

- Anyone who has had a previous allergic reaction to hyaluronic acid products.
- Anyone with a joint infection, or a skin condition or infection at the injection site.

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## How to refer

To meet Medicare requirements, a patient referred for a hyaluronic acid injection will require three separate referrals, one for each injection. We encourage you to provide all three referrals to the patient at their consultation. Each referral should state:

- Referral 1: First CT-guided hyaluronic acid injection - [body part], [clinical history].
- Referral 2: Second CT-guided hyaluronic acid injection- [body part], [clinical history].
- Referral 3: Third CT-guided hyaluronic acid injection - [body part], [clinical history].

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## Cost

- We are pleased to advise that we currently bulk bill all patients with a Medicare card. This includes both the hyaluronic acid product and the CT guided procedure.

**Bookings & Enquiries 1800 375 663**

