

**Arthroscopy** is a surgical technique used to visualize, diagnose, and treat intra-articular (in the joint) problems.

During anesthesia, the affected joint will be clipped and prepped.

The joint will be distended with saline to allow adequate access to the joint space.

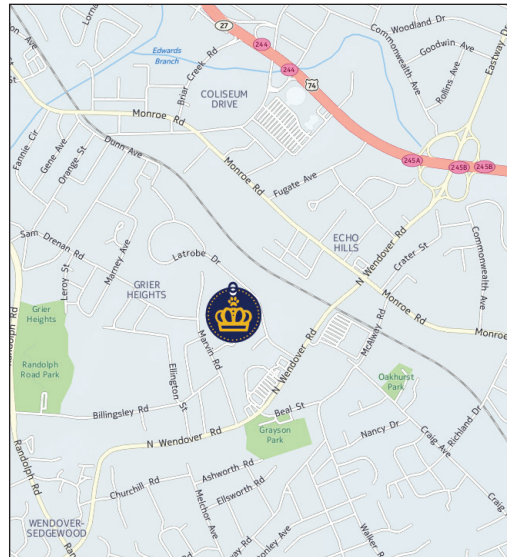
Two small (3-5mm) incisions are made into the joint space, minimizing tissue trauma and post-operative pain.

#### Canine Arthroscopy offers:

- 🐾 Minimally invasive method to perform joint surgery
- 🐾 More thorough examination of the joint cartilage than with open surgical approaches
- 🐾 Less intra-operative tissue trauma
- 🐾 Less post-operative pain for the patient

#### Reasons to have surgery performed arthroscopically:

- 🐾 Better visualization for the surgeon of the disease process for treatment
- 🐾 Can be both diagnostic and therapeutic
- 🐾 Less invasive than a traditional open surgical approach
- 🐾 Smaller incisions and quicker recovery time
- 🐾 Less scar tissue formation
- 🐾 Decreased risk of infection



*Consult with your veterinarian  
regarding referral for  
evaluation and surgery.*



**CARE +** CHARLOTTE ANIMAL  
REFERRAL & EMERGENCY

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MINIMALLY INVASIVE SURGERY

## Arthroscopy



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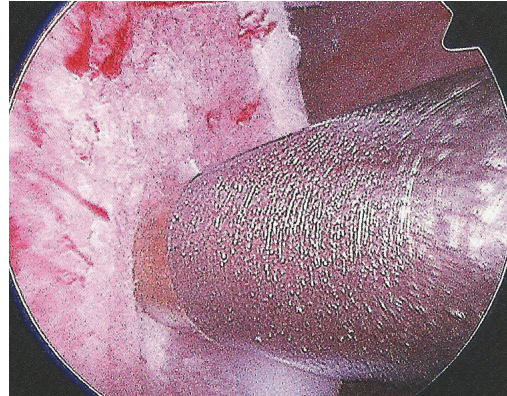


## ARTHROSCOPY



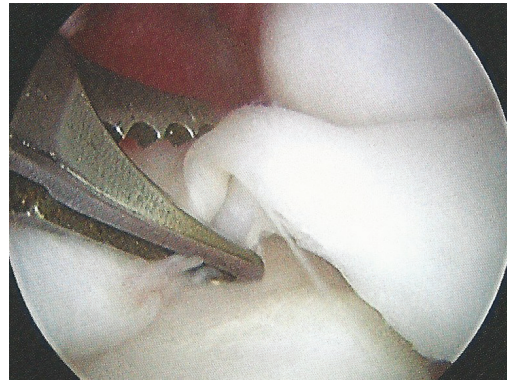
### + Shoulder Lameness

Many shoulder problems can be diagnosed and treated arthroscopically, including osteochondrosis (OCD), biceps tendon disease and shoulder instability. This image of a canine with forelimb lameness and shoulder pain shows an OCD lesion.



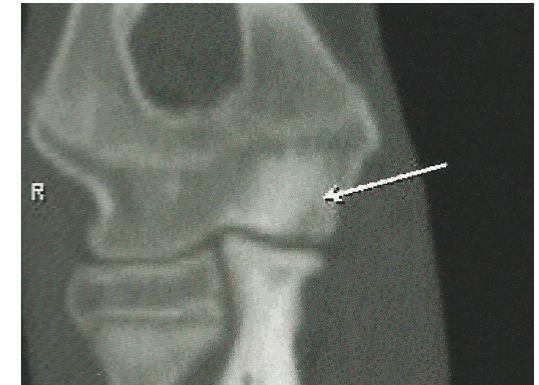
### + OCD Lesion

This arthroscopic image shows an OCD lesion immediately after treatment. The area has been scraped to bleeding bone after removal of a cartilage flap and diseased subchondral bone.



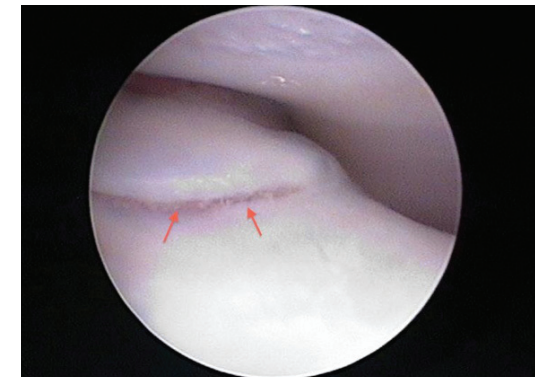
### + Cruciate Ligament Disease

While cruciate ligament tears are generally easy to visualize with an arthrotomy, other damage may be missed. Arthroscopy gives us the opportunity to see related structures and ensure the whole joint is treated as necessary. In the above image, forceps are removing damaged meniscus in a patient with a cranial cruciate ligament rupture.



### + Elbow Dysplasia

Elbow dysplasia has 3 main components: osteochondrosis dessicans (OCD), fragmentation of the medial aspect of the coronoid process (FMCP), and ununited anconeal process (UAP). All 3 of these can be treated arthroscopically and 2 can be treated without even opening the joint. The above image shows a canine elbow dysplasia.



### + FMCP

Fragmented medial coronoid disease (FMCP) can be treated arthroscopically. The image above shows a probe on a loose fragment of an elbow joint with FMCP.