Patients screened for eligibility
n=476

Not eligible
n=286

General criteria
- Did not fulfill inclusion criteria, n=106
- Other musculoskeletal disorder, n=79
- Osteoarthritis K&L grade 3 or 4, n=51
- BMI > 35, n=23
- Significant trauma, n=13
- Other, n=14

Eligible for MRI
n=190

Declined participation
n=102

Reason
- Not wanting a placebo operation, n=29
- Risk of undergoing secondary surgery, n=16
- Not wanting surgery at all, n=17
- Not willing to participate in trial, n=4
- Other reason, n=14
- 25 declined before reviewing info

Agreed to participate
n=88

Not included
n=48

Excluded after MRI
- No meniscus lesion on MRI, n=29
- Wanting actual surgery, n=7
- Not wanting surgery, n=7
- Other reason, n=3
- 2 patients still await MRI

Included in RCT
n=40