



Shelbourne Knee Center
at Methodist Hospital
Specialized Care for Knee Injuries

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Point Counterpoint. Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction: A Cynical View from the British Isles on the Indications of Surgery. Johnson DH, Maffulli N, King JB, Shelbourne KD: Arthroscopy 19:203 - 209, 2003.

We are all aware that the treatment of the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL)-injured knee may depend on many factors, including the age of the patient, degree of laxity, level of sports participation, and pain associated injuries. What may not be as widely recognized is the geographic variation in the attitude toward ACL injury. The following discussion presents two different opinions, one by Nicola Maffulli and John B. King from the United Kingdom and the other view from K. Donald Shelbourne from the United States. These opinions reflect both the individual philosophies of the authors and the medical-delivery systems in their countries. I believe that we all want patients to receive the most appropriate treatment; unfortunately, this is often dictated by the medical care that patients have available in their area.

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