

Table III. *ICRS (International Cartilage Research Society) Visual Histological Assessment Scale*

Feature	Points
Surface	
Smooth/continuous	3
Discontinuities/irregularities	0
Matrix	
Hyaline	3
Mixture: hyaline/fibrocartilage	2
Fibrocartilage	1
Fibrous tissue	0
Cell distribution	
Columnar	3
Mixed/columnar-clusters	2
Clusters	1
Individual cells/disorganized	0
Cell population viability	
Predominantly viable	3
Partially viable	1
<10% viable	0
Subchondral bone	
Normal	3
Increased remodelling	2
Bone necrosis/granulation tissue	1
Detached/fracture/callus at base	0
Cartilage mineralization (calcified cartilage)	
Normal	3
Abnormal/inappropriate location	0