A comprehensive platform for Kinematic Alignment
Functional stability and patient-specific kinematics

Dedicated Kinematic Alignment metal instrument set

Patient-specific 3D planning optimizing kinematics

Tailored education program and scientific events
Flexion axis of the tibia
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What is Kinematic Alignment?

Kinematic Alignment TKA aims to personalize joint line reconstruction through anatomic resurfacing, with little to no ligament releases.

Kinematic Alignment places the implant in a custom position for each patient, so as to restore the native femoral and tibial joint line, as well as limb and knee alignment, which are unique to each individual.

By restoring the native alignment, the prosthetic component is aligned to the three axes that describe the normal knee kinematics, i.e.\(^1\):

- Transverse axis in the femur, around which the tibia flexes and extends
- Longitudinal axis in the tibia, around which the tibia rotates internally and externally on the femur
- Transverse axis in the femur, around which the patella flexes and extends

Aligning the flexion-extension axes of the femoral component to the natural knee kinematic axes of the patient’s individual knee has proved to lead to better overall functional outcomes\(^2\).
Flexion axis of the patella

Flexion axis of the tibia

Rotational axis of the tibia
Why **Kinematic Alignment?**

To restore native patient alignment, i.e. the angles and level of the femoral and tibial joint line, the prosthetic components are positioned so as to restore the native knee flexion-extension axes. It has been reported\(^3\) that the Joint Line Orientation Angle (JLOA) in the coronal plane is parallel to the floor in the native knee and perpendicular to the weight-bearing axis of the body in bipedal stance. One study has reported\(^4\) that after KA-TKA, patients could stand with their knees more parallel to the floor and bear weight more centrally during gait compared to MA-TKA patients. This may explain the subjective consistently positive feedbacks of the early and mid-term clinical outcomes.

Several articles have reported that patients who underwent Kinematic Alignment TKA had significantly better outcomes in terms of pain relief, function and a more “normal-feeling” knee\(^5,6\).

*“Our mission is to restore the native function of the knee and give our patients their lives back.”*  
**DR. HOWELL**
GMK Sphere

Based on the knee anatomy and the kinematic studies\textsuperscript{[7]} performed by Prof. Michael Freeman and Prof. Vera Pinskerova, GMK Sphere is a medially stabilized total knee implant designed to deliver maximum functional stability with the goal of increasing TKA patient satisfaction during activities of daily life and decreasing postoperative knee pain. GMK Sphere is a medially stabilized implant that has been proven to reproduce the natural motion of the knee\textsuperscript{[8,9,10]}.

In order to better replicate the native knee anatomy and kinematics GMK Sphere’s design features a \textbf{congruent medial compartment} and a \textbf{flat lateral compartment}. By providing stability on the medial compartment and freedom of movement on the lateral compartment GMK Sphere allows the \textbf{“medial-pivoting motion”}. This kind of movement has been proven to better replicate the natural knee motion\textsuperscript{[11,12]}.

DISCOVER THE STABILITY
GMK Sphere
sphere.medacta.com
Stability for life

GAMK SPHERE
MEDALLY STABILIZED KNEE
Kinematic Alignment meets Kinematic Design

GMK Sphere and Kinematic Alignment are based on similar observations on the knee and share the same ultimate goals:

- RESTORE THE KINEMATIC AXES OF THE KNEE
- RESTORE THE NATIVE LAXITY OF THE KNEE

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT MIKA
MIKA
mika.medacta.com
Joint line
Flexion axis of the tibia
Rotational axis of the tibia
RESTORE THE KINEMATIC AXES OF THE KNEE

One of the main principles of Kinematic Alignment is that the axis of the cylinder that approximates the femoral condyles is the flexion-extension axis\textsuperscript{[13]}. GMK Sphere is an implant that helps to restore the kinematic axes. Indeed, GMK Sphere is a single radius implant, that follows the same flexion-extension axis throughout the motion of the knee. The GMK Sphere medial ball in-socket provides stability to the knee and allows to reproduce the natural motion of the knee. The medial ball in-socket allows also to keep the kinematic axis in the right A-P position throughout flexion, thus avoiding paradoxical motion\textsuperscript{[14]}. The features of GMK Sphere allow the restoration of the flexion-extension axis and the reproduction of the natural motion of the knee, making GMK Sphere a particularly suitable implant for Kinematic Alignment.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT MIKA
GMK Sphere
Design Rationale
sphere.medacta.com
Fig. 14

Cadaver femur. The red rod passes through the transperondylar line and the attachment of both collateral ligaments. The blue rod passes through the iliac crest centre and through the attachment of the LCL and both cruciate ligaments.

Fig. 17

CT reconstruction of the medial and lateral aspects of the distal femur. The red dot is the lateral femoral centre and coincides with the attachment of the MCL. The blue dot marks the FCLs medially and laterally and the lateral side coincides with the attachment of the LCL.
RESTORE THE NATIVE LAXITY OF THE KNEE

During their studies,[15] Prof. Freeman and Prof. Pinskerova observed that the lateral ligament is tense in extension while it is lax in flexion. The laxity of the lateral compartment was also pointed out by Dr. Howell[16], who confirmed the presence of an unequal balancing in flexion and extension. With GMK Sphere, the medial ball-in-socket provides stability to the knee, while allowing patient specific laxity on the lateral compartment.

The GMK Sphere trochea groove has been designed asymmetrical (6° diverging), 7mm deep and lateralized by 2mm with respect to the midline of the femoral component. This allows for a more natural medial-lateral translation of the patella during flexion-extension and can reduce stress on either the natural patella or the patellar implant.
Section 4 Supplementary Figures

Fig. 37

Divided part of the upper end... 

Fig. 38

A second MRI of the knee... 

Fig. 39

A further MRI with... 

Fig. 40

A further MRI with... 

Fig. 41

A further MRI with...
GMK Sphere anatomical design

GMK Sphere has also some fitting features to best adapt to a broad spectrum of anatomic profiles:

- **13 femoral sizes**, with 2mm increments in AP and ML.
- **7 insert thicknesses**, from 10 to 20mm, with 1mm increments between 10 and 14mm and 3mm increments between 14 and 20mm.
- **Anatomically shaped tibial baseplate** to best fit the asymmetrical profile of the tibia.

The combination of 13 femoral sizes and inserts with 1mm increments allows the surgeon to «fine-tune» the ligament balance according to the KA principles and to improve stability throughout the whole range of motion.
Calipered Technique

Kinematic Alignment is a true “resurfacing” of the knee, in which the implant thickness replaces the exact amount of bone and cartilage removed.

Medacta has developed, together with leading expert Dr. S. Howell, a dedicated instrument set that allows to kinematically align the implant using the calipered technique. The Calipered Technique allows the restoration of the native pre-arthritic alignment by measuring all the bone cuts and accounting for cartilage wear.
TARGET CALIPER MEASUREMENT = IMPLANT THICKNESS - CARTILAGE WEAR - SAW BLADE THICKNESS

MyKnee MIKA

Kinematic Alignment can also be achieved by using the proven accuracy\textsuperscript{17,18} of Medacta’s MyKnee 3D printed patient-specific solution. A web-based 3D preoperative plan is drawn to kinematically align the implant based upon the same rationale of Calipered Kinematic Alignment Technique.

The MyKnee patient-specific guides are designed using preoperative MRI and CT scans in order to kinematically align the implant mimicking each patient’s native anatomy. MyKnee MIKA also allows the surgeon to set some boundaries to the planning, which is helpful to streamline the learning curve phase.
MIKA Educational Program

The M.O.R.E. Institute offers effective and continuous education to surgeons, with the aim to improve patient outcomes and surgical proficiency. The M.O.R.E. Institute was built, and has been growing, around the concept of sharing experience within the international medical community. It has become a unique and global education platform, tailored to everyone’s needs.

The MIKA Educational Program can count on an evergrowing network of Kinematic Alignment experts all over the world, and offers dedicated symposia and Learning centers, as well as user meetings for continuous education and discussion.
REFERENCES
