

Table 3. Synovial Fluid Results and Suggested Diagnosis

FLUID RESULTS	NORMAL	NON-INFLAMMATORY	INFLAMMATORY	SEPTIC
Color	Clear, yellow	Yellow	Yellow to green	Yellow to gray
Clarity	Transparent	Transparent	Turbid	Turbid
Viscosity	High	High	Low	Variable
WBC / mm ³	< 200	200–2,000	1,000–100,000	15,000–200,000
PMNs	< 10 %	< 25 %	> 50 %	> 75 %
Glucose	~ 90 % of serum	~ 90 % of serum	~ 70 % of serum	< 50 % serum (< 25 mg/dL)
Mucin clot	Good	Good	Good to poor	Poor