

REHABILITATION PROTOCOL: POSTERIOR CRUCIATE LIGAMENT (PCL) RECONSTRUCTION WITH ACHILLES ALLOGRAFT

Name		
Date		
Diagnosis		
Date of Surge	·v	

Phase I (Weeks 0-4)

- Weightbearing: As tolerated with crutches (may be modified if concomitant posterolateral corner reconstruction, meniscal repair/meniscal transplant or articular cartilage procedure is performed)
- Hinged Knee Brace:
 - o Locked in full extension for ambulation and sleeping (Weeks 0-1)
- o Locked in full extension for ambulation removed for therapy sessions (Weeks 1-4)
- Range of Motion Weeks 0-1: None, Weeks 1-2: PROM 0-30°, Weeks 2-4: PROM 0-90° (MAINTAIN ANTERIOR PRESSURE ON PROXIMAL TIBIA AS KNEE IS FLEXED FROM WEEK 1-4—NEED TO PREVENT POSTERIOR SAGGING AT ALL TIMES)
- Therapeutic Exercises
 - o Quad/Hamstring sets and ankle pumps
- o Straight-Leg Raise with brace in full extension until quad strength prevents extension lag
- o Hip abduction/adduction (RESISTANCE MUST BE PROXIMAL TO THE KNEE)
- o Hamstring/Calf stretch Calf press with theraband progressing to standing toe raises with knee in full extension

Phase II (Weeks 4-12)

- **Weightbearing:** As tolerated with crutches-- discontinue crutch use at 6-8 weeks post-op
- Hinged Knee Brace: Weeks 4-6: unlocked for gait training/exercise only, Weeks 6-8: unlocked for all activities, Discontinue brace at 8 weeks post-op
- Range of Motion—Maintain full knee extension—work on progressive knee flexion (Goal of 110° by week 6)
- Therapeutic Exercises
- o **Weeks 4-8**: Gait training, wall slides (0-30°), Mini-squats (0-30°), Leg press (0-60°)
- o **Weeks 8-12**: Stationary bicycle (with seat higher than normal), Stairmaster, Closed-chain terminal knee extension, Leg press (0-90°), Balance and proprioception activities

Phase III (Weeks 12-9 months)

- Weightbearing: Full weightbearing with normalized gait pattern
- Range of Motion Full/Painless ROM
- Therapeutic Exercises

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- o Advance closed chain strengthening exercises, progress with proprioception/balance activities
 - o Maintain flexibility
 - o Begin treadmill walking progress to jogging

Phase IV (9 months and beyond)

- o Maintain strength, endurance and function initiate plyometric program
 - o Begin cutting exercises and sport-specific drills
 - o Return to sports as tolerated

Comments: AVOID ACTIVE HAMSTRING ACTIVITY AND ACTIVE KNEE EXTENSION FROM 90-70° UNTIL POST-OP WEEK 4

Frequency:	times per week	Duration:	weeks
Signature:		Date:	

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