

Tibial Tubercle Osteotomy & MPFL

Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol

Ironman Sports Medicine Institute

1st Edition



PHASE 1 - ACUTE (0-6 Weeks)

PHASE GOALS: PROTECT OSTEOTOMY, RESTORE QUADRICEPS ACTIVATION

RANGE OF MOTION

- 0-1 WEEKS ALLOW FLEXION TO 30 DEG
- 1-2 WEEKS GRADUALLY PROGRESS FLEXION TO 60 DEG
- 2-4 WEEKS GRADUALLY PROGRESS FLEXION TO 90 DEG
- 4-6 WEEKS GRADUALLY PROGRESS FLEXION TO 120 DEG

WEIGHT BEARING

- 0-2 WEEKS TOE TOUCH WEIGHT BEARING
- 2-6 WEEKS PARTIAL WEIGHT BEARING, WBAT AFTER 6 WEEKS

BRACE & CRUTCH USE

- 0-2 WEEKS BRACE LOCKED IN EXTENSION, CRUTCHES FOR 6 WEEKS
- 2-6 WEEKS UNLOCK BRACE 30 DEG EACH WEEK **WITH GOOD QUAD

STRENGTHENING & CONDITIONING

- 0-2 WEEKS QUAD SETS
- 2-6 WEEKS QUAD SETS, SLRs, UPPER BODY ERGOMETER

CRITERIA FOR PROGRESSION

- WITHIN 2 DEG NORMAL KNEE EXTENSION & ≥ 90 DEG KNEE FLEXION
- ≤ 2/10 PAIN AT REST
- STRAIGHT LEG RAISE WITHOUT QUAD LAG



PHASE 2 – AMBULATION & ADLs (7-10 Weeks)

PHASE GOALS: RESTORE AMBULATION STATUS & ADLS

RANGE OF MOTION

7-10 WEEKS - GRADUALLY PROGRESS FLEXION TO FULL

WEIGHT BEARING

7+ WEEKS - PROGRESS AS TOLERATED

BRACE & CRUTCH USE

7+ WEEKS - PROGRESS TO FULL *WITH GOOD QUAD CONTROL

STRENGTHENING

- 7-8 WEEKS QUAD SETS, LEG RAISES, HIP & CORE STRENGTHENING, SIDE PLANKS, GAIT TRAINING, SINGLE LEG BALANCE
- 9-10 WEEKS CONTINUE PREVIOUS, SAQ, LAQ, PARTIAL RANGE LEG PRESS (LIGHT), STEP-UPS (6" OR LESS), PSOAS AND POSTERIOR CHAIN FLEXIBILITY

CONDITIONING

UPPER BODY ERGOMETER, BIKING WHEN > 115 DEG FLEXION,

CRITERIA FOR AMBULATION WITHOUT ASSISTIVE DEVICE

- AT LEAST 7 WEEKS POST-SURGERY
- PAIN LESS THAN 2/10 (WORST)
- WITHIN 2 DEG NORMAL KNEE EXTENSION & 120 DEG KNEE FLEXION
- SINGLE LEG BALANCE > 20 SEC (BESS)
- MD OR PT APPROVAL



PHASE 3 - STRENGTH (11-18 Weeks)

PHASE GOALS: IMPROVE STRENGTH & INITIATE JOGGING PROGRAM

RANGE OF MOTION

11+ WEEKS - MAINTAIN ROM

STRENGTHENING

11-13 WEEKS – CONTINUE PREVIOUS, SQUAT PROGRESSION (PARTIAL RANGE -> BODYWEIGHT – SQUATS)

13-16 WEEKS – CONTINUE PREVOUS, SINGLE LEG SQUATS, SMALL HOPS IN PLACE, JUMP ROPE

CONDITIONING

11+ WEEKS - STATIONARY BIKING, ELLIPTICAL, ROWING MACHINE, SWIMMING

CRITERIA FOR JOGGING

- AT LEAST 16 WEEKS POST-SURGERY
- PAIN LESS THAN 3/10 (WORST)
- WITHIN 2 DEG NORMAL KNEE EXTENSION & 125 DEG KNEE FLEXION
- AT LEAST 1 MINUTE OF SINGLE LEG SQUATS
- MD OR PT APPROVAL



PHASE 4 - AGILITY (19-24 Weeks)

PHASE GOALS: INTRODUCE DYNAMIC & POWER MOVEMENTS

STRENGTHENING

GYM SPECIFIC STRENGTHENING (BARBELL SQUATS & DEADLIFTS)

BIODEX QUAD & HAMSTRING FATIGUEING PROTCOLS

CORE EXERCISES (MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS, PLANKS, V-UPS)

SINGLE LEG SQUATTING TO FATIGUE

CONDITIONING

ROAD OR STATIONARY BIKING

JOGGING PROGRAM

PLYOMETRICS & LIGHT AGILITY

LADDER DRILLS, BOX JUMPS (UP/DOWN TO 24"), BROAD JUMP,

VERTICAL JUMPS, HOP PROGRESSION

CRITERIA FOR HEAVY AGILITY & SPORT SPECIFIC MOVEMENTS

- 20 WEEKS POST-SURGERY
- PAIN LESS THAN 2/10 (WORST)
- QUAD & HAM STRENGTH > 80% NORMAL; > 50% H/Q RATIO FOR FEMALES
- AT LEAST 2 MINUTES OF SINGLE LEG SQUATS (RESISTED)
- < 5 ON LANDING ERROR SCORING SYSTEM (LESS)
- MD OR PT APPROVAL



PHASE 5 - RETURN TO PLAY (24+ Weeks)

PHASE GOALS: INITIATE SPORTS SPECIFIC MOVEMENTS & RETURN TO PLAY STRENGTHENING

PROGRESS GYM ROUTINE (SQUATS, DEADLIFTS, OLYMPIC LIFTING)
BIODEX QUAD & HAMSTRING FATIGUE PROTOCOLS & CORE EXERCISES

CONDITIONING

JOGGING, BIKING, & SWIMMING

INTERVAL SPRINT WORKOUTS

PLYMETRICS & AGILITY (2-3 DAYS/WEEK)

MAX EFFORT BOX JUMPS (PROGRESS WITH ROTATION)

LATERAL & ROTATIONAL AGILITY

SINGLE-LEG HOPS TESTING

UNPREDICTABLE CUTTING & CONTACT DRILLS

RECOMMENDED CRITERIA FOR RETURN TO PLAY

- PAIN LESS THAN 2/10 (WORST)
- QUAD & HAM STRENGTH > 90% NORMAL; > 60% H/Q RATIO FOR FEMALES
- AT LEAST 3 MINUTES OF SINGLE LEG SQUATS (RESISTED)
- 90% NORMAL ON ALL SINGLE-LEG HOP TESTS
- 95% NORMAL FIGURE OF 8, 5-10-5 PRO-AGILITY, & S-L VERTICAL JUMP
- MD OR PT APPROVAL

