

Dr. Joshua Alpert Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol: Knee - Arthroscopic ACL Reconstruction with Allograft

Note: If there was a meniscus repair concomitant with the ACL reconstruction, please follow the meniscus repair protocol for the first 4 weeks.

	Weight Bearing/ Brace	Exercise	Precautions	Criteria to Progress
PHASE I 0-4 weeks Full ROM okay	PWB 50% with crutches Off crutches when ambulati ng safely - brace will be locked in extensio n until first appointm ent. PT may unlock brace to bend the knee.	Plyometrics/Strength: quad sets. SLR. ankle pumps. Active ROM. Balance/Proprioception: none Conditioning/Agility: stationary bike	- avoid pivoting and varus/valgus stress - no resisted open chain knee extension	Full passive extension
PHASE II 4-6 weeks Full ROM okay	FWB Unlocked brace	Plyometrics/Strength: once pt has good quad control: mini squats. Partial wall-slide. Toe raises. Standing ham curl. Hip abduction.	- avoid pivoting and varus/valgus stress - no resisted open chain knee extension	Normal gait without brace. Full SLR. No lag

		Balance/Proprioception: weight shifts pre-gait training. Single leg standing. If advanced, WB/squat for symmetry Conditioning/Agility: stationary bike		Stable pain rating No new swelling.
PHASE II 6-12 weeks Full ROM okay	FWB, no brace	Plyometrics/Strength: progress to gym equipment. Initiate single leg progression Balance/Proprioception: SL. standing on unstable surfaces like wobble board or foam. A/P, lateral. Star drill. Conditioning/Agility: elliptical trainer. swimming.	- avoid pivoting and varus/valgus stress - no resisted open chain knee extension - no stairmaster/impact exercise - avoid patellofemor al overload	Full ROM
PHASE III 12-16 weeks Full ROM okay	Sports brace	Plyometrics/Strength: jump progression. Double limb, directional hops on flat, even surface AP/lat. Broad jump. Broad jump to vertical jump. Wall jumps. Balance/Proprioception: SL standing on unstable surface like wobble board or foam. DL squats on foam/wobble/BOSU. Star drill.	- limit straight ahead jogging/ running with brace - patellofemor al precautions	Girth within 1/2" single leg step down 6" x 10 reps SLWS 60° x10 reps SL squat 60° x 10 reps Run 100 yards with normal stride

		Conditioning/Agility: jogging, flat surface (track/treadmill)		DL hop tests.
PHASE IV 16-24 weeks Full ROM okay	Sports brace	Plyometrics/Strength: progress plyos Balance/Proprioception: progress SL tasks with perturbations Conditioning/Agility: progress acceleration and deceleration. Basic agility drills. Progress to work conditioning.	- patellofemor al precautions	SL hop for distance
PHASE V 24 weeks+ Full ROM okay	Sports brace	Plyometrics/Strength: progress jump training Conditioning/Agility: full speed agility drills. Sports specific training. Begin work conditioning.		Per speed/agility and jump progressions

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