Aaron J. Casp, MD

Sports Medicine, Hip, Knee, and Shoulder Surgery 1201 11th Ave S Birmingham, AL 35205

Ph: (205) 930-8339

High Tibial Osteotomy With Cartilage Transplant Protocol

Phase/ Goals	Immobilization	ROM	Therapeutic Exercises
Phase 1 (0-4 weeks) Goals: Decrease swelling Gain full extension Quad control	Hinged knee brace x 6 weeks NON weightbearing x 2 weeks Then 25% weightbearing until week 6 Brace locked at 0 until quad strength returns	 Brace 0-90 x 6 weeks CPM x 4 weeks: 0-70 degrees, (start at 0-30 and increase until at 70 degrees) 4-6 hrs/day Avoid forced flexion Patella mobs Full extension important Modalities: NMES if unable to perform SLR without lag Cryocuff/Game Ready Compression/ Ice 	 Quad recruitment, NMES as needed Quad, glute, core strengthening Quad sets/SLR in brace locked at 0 (assist as needed) SLR in all planes with assist until no lag Gastric/soleus stretch No resistance bike OK starting week 4 Terminal knee extension
Phase 2 (5-8 weeks) Goals: No effusion Maintain full extension Pain free ROM	Unlock brace to full ROM 50% partial weightbearing from weeks 4-6 weeks postop (can begin walking in aquatic therapy if wound healed) Full WBAT with crutches week 6-8	 Restore full ROM Modalities: Scar STM when incision healed Patellar mobs all directions Gentle prone quad stretch/knee flex Manual assist extension/passive stretch 	 High no-resistance Bike for ROM Water/aquatic walking, marching in at least waist-deep water starting week 4 Quad sets/glut sets, clams/mini-hydrants/glut pushes Calf raises on leg press Starting Week 6 Leg press TKE mini squats – keep tibia perpendicular to floor, no lower than 45 degrees

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Goals: • Full ROM • Full weightbearing • Discontinue brace • Normalize gait • Progress strengthening	Full weightbearing – unrestricted ROM Wean from brace as tolerated	 Full A/PROM Manual: Joint mobs PRN for full flex and ext ROM Patellar mobs/ Scar STM with extractor Modalities: Ice/stim PRN 	 Single leg press Treadmill walking (forwards and backwards) starting Unilateral step-ups (limit 6-8" until week 12) Bike Lower extremity/glute strengthening Balance/proprioception (Bosu squats) Lateral walks with sport cord SLS dynamic surfaces Advance strengthening as tolerated Elliptical/swimming ok at 12 weeks for conditioning Single Leg press Mini squats no lower than 45 degrees until week 10
Phase 4 (4+ months) Goals: Introduce jumping/jogging Return to sport specific activities		• Full A/PROM	 Continue everything in phase 3 Initiate walk-jog progression to easy pace, add incline if tolerates Muscular power – squads, split jumps, sled drags Add plyometrics for speed and power after week 14 Agility drills