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# ACL, Meniscus Repair, Osteochondral Transplant Protocol

	WEIGHT BEARING	BRACE	ROM	EXERCISES	PROGRESSION GOALS
PHASE I -	• 0-4 Weeks:	• 0-2 Week:	• 0-1 Week:	• 0-2 weeks	Full symmetrical gait without limp
0-6 weeks	<ul> <li>TTWB with brace locked</li> </ul>	- Brace locked 0°	- Full extension	<ul> <li>Quad sets, SLR, calf pumps,</li> </ul>	or assistance:
	and crutches	extension	and progress	passive leg hangs to 90°, gastroc	<ul> <li>VAS ≤ 5 (worst) &amp; IKDC ≥ 30</li> </ul>
		- Remove for CPM and PT	flexion to 60°	and hamstring stretches	<ul> <li>Knee extension PROM ≥ 0°</li> </ul>
	• 4-6 Weeks:				<ul> <li>Knee Flexion PROM ≥ 90°</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>TTWB with brace locked</li> </ul>	• 2-4 Weeks:	• 1-4 Weeks:	• 2-6 weeks	<ul> <li>≥ 30 SLR without quad lag</li> </ul>
	and crutches	- Unlock brace 0° to 90°	<ul> <li>Maintain full</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>PROM/AAROM, patella mobs,</li> </ul>	• BESS (SL-FIRM) ≤ 5
	<ul> <li>Unlock brace when</li> </ul>		extension and	quad sets, hamstring sets, glut	<ul> <li>MD or PT APPROVAL</li> </ul>
	adequate quad control	• 4-6 Weeks:	progress to 90°	sets, SLR, side-lying, hip and core,	
		- Brace unlocked to full if		heel slides	
		good quad control and	• 4+ Weeks:		
		full extension	- Gradually	• 4+ weeks	
			progress flexion	- Static balance	
		• 6+ Weeks:	to 120°	- Mini squats	
		- D/C brace for home		<ul> <li>Stationary biking: must be &gt;110°</li> </ul>	
		ambulation	STRESS EARLY	knee flexion	
		- Continue brace for	EXTENSION (avoid		
		community ambulation	hyperextension > 10°)	<ul> <li>Other recommended exercises:</li> </ul>	
		until MD approval to		- Heat (before), Ice (after)	
		D/C		- ultrasound	
				- E stim and biofeedback	
PHASE II –	<ul> <li>Advance 25% every 3-5</li> </ul>	• Discontinued at 6 weeks if	• 6+ Weeks:	<ul> <li>Continue with Phase I</li> </ul>	
6-8 weeks	days until FWB at 8	no extension lag	- Maintain full	<ul> <li>Add stationary bike</li> </ul>	
	weeks		extension	<ul> <li>Gait training</li> </ul>	
			<ul> <li>Progress to full</li> </ul>		
			flexion		

• Monitor for pain and swelling. Modify as necessary.

• Encourage home exercises program daily

• Encourage ice 4x a day for 20 minutes while swelling is present

• For any questions or concerns please contact Dr. Tauberg's

	WEIGHT BEARING	BRACE	ROM	EXERCISES	PROGRESSION GOALS
PHASE III - 8-16 weeks	• As tolerated	BRACE • Functional bracing dependent on patient activity and doctor recs	<ul> <li>Full, painless</li> <li>12+ Weeks:</li> <li>Maintain symmetry &amp; pain-free with overpressure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Advance Phase II</li> <li>Gait training</li> <li>Begin closed-chain activities: <ul> <li>Wall sits, shuttle, mini-squats, toe raises</li> <li>Loaded flexion &gt;90° is PROHIBITED</li> </ul> </li> <li>Begin unilateral stance activities</li> <li>Balance training</li> <li>Strengthening</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>PROGRESSION GOALS</li> <li>NO impact activities until 8 months post-op</li> <li>Criteria for Phase III <ul> <li>Pain less than 3/10 (worst)</li> <li>Within 2° normal knee extension and 120° knee flexion</li> <li>Symmetrical body-weight squat</li> <li>Minimal effusion/pain</li> <li>Symmetrical gait without limp</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
				<ul> <li>Leg press, step ups, step downs, RDLs, lunges, Bulgarian squats, wall sits</li> <li>Squat progression: bodyweight → single leg</li> <li>Advance hip abduction &amp; glute strength: band walks, lateral lunge, reverse lunge, bridges, hip thrusters</li> <li>Core exercises: planks, side planks, v-ups, Russian twist, superman</li> <li>Balance training: foam pad, balance board, BOSU</li> <li>Conditioning</li> <li>Stationary bike: encourage daily biking, may begin interval training if non-reactive</li> </ul>	
				<ul> <li>Swimming: progress kicking gradually and pain-free, no flip turns</li> </ul>	
PHASE IV – 16-24 weeks	• Full	<ul> <li>Functional bracing dependent on patient activity and doctor recommendation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>16+ Weeks:</li> <li>Maintain symmetry &amp; pain-free with overpressure</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Strengthening: squats, deadlifts, initiate Olympic lifting</li> <li>SL strengthening: SL quats, sit to stands, ball slams, step ups/downs</li> <li>Dynamic Core exercises: planks, pikes, pale off press, mountain climbers</li> <li>Integrate interval strength circuits &amp; work/rest timed intervals</li> </ul>	-
				<ul> <li>Conditioning</li> <li>Initiate Dynamic warmup: Frankenstein kicks, leg swings, knee hugs, heel sweeps, heel-toe walks, oil rigs, lateral lunge hip rotation, inch worm, speed squats</li> </ul>	

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				<ul> <li>Stationary bike, elliptical, swimming, &amp; rowing machine</li> <li>16+ Weeks: Alter-G treadmill walk/jog progressions. Begin with 30"-1' W/J intervals, advance jog time as tolerated, no more than by 1 min each week</li> </ul>	
PHASE V – 24-32 weeks	• Full	<ul> <li>Functional bracing dependent on patient activity and doctor recommendation</li> </ul>	• Promote and maintain symmetry	<ul> <li>Strengthening <ul> <li>Continue Phase IV</li> <li>Conditioning</li> <li>Dynamic warmup</li> <li>Stationary bike, elliptical, swimming, &amp; rowing machine</li> <li>24+ Weeks: treadmill walk/jog progressions. Begin with 30"-1' W/J intervals, advance jog time by 1 min each week</li> <li>24+ Weeks: Double leg jump rope and shuttle jumps</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Criteria For Jogging &amp; Double Leg Jump Rope</li> <li>VAS ≤ 3 (worst) &amp; IKDC ≥ 60</li> <li>Within 2° normal knee extension &amp; 120° knee flexion</li> <li>Heel height difference ≤ 1cm</li> <li>Quad and hamstring strength ≥ 60% normal</li> <li>Overhead squat (FMS) ≥2</li> <li>Less than 4cm deficit on single-leg squat (anterior reach)</li> <li>Single leg squats (Vail Test) ≥ 1 minute</li> <li>MD approval</li> </ul>
PHASE VI 32-36 weeks	• Full	• Functional bracing dependent on patient activity and doctor recommendation	• Promote and maintain symmetry	<ul> <li>Strengthening</li> <li>Continue phase V</li> <li>Dynamic eccentric loading: double &amp; single leg</li> <li>Dynamic core: rotational and antirotational drills</li> <li>Isokinetic training protocols: being with 300°/sec, progress to 180°/sec</li> <li>Conditioning</li> <li>Dynamic warmup</li> <li>Biking, jogging, swimming, &amp; rowing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>If meet "goal progression" criteria, begin straight line jog to run progression at 16 weeks for allograft</li> <li>Criteria for Plyometrics &amp; Agility: <ul> <li>VAS ≤ 2 (Worst) &amp; IKDC ≥ 70</li> <li>Tampa Kinesiophobia Scale &lt; 20</li> <li>Heel Height Difference ≤ 1 cm</li> <li>Quad &amp; HS symmetry ≥ 80% normal; ≥ 50% H/Q ratio for females</li> <li>Y Balance deficits &lt; 4 cm (each direction)</li> <li>Landing error scoring system ≤ 5</li> <li>At least 3 minutes of single-leg</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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				<ul> <li>Advance to track workouts: jog straights and walk curves</li> <li>Plyometrics &amp; Agility</li> <li>Ladder drills, footwork agility drills</li> <li>Double leg plyos: shuttle jumps, jump rope, line jumps, depth jumps, box jumps</li> <li>Single leg plyos: alternating SL, SL hops,</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>squats (resisted)</li> <li>Jogging &gt;15 minutes on treadmill</li> <li>MD or PT APPROVAL</li> <li>Allografts delay plyometrics to 24 weeks</li> </ul>
PHASE VII – 36-40 weeks	• Full	<ul> <li>Functional bracing dependent on patient activity and doctor recommendation</li> </ul>	• Full	SL bounding         • Strengthening         - Continue Phase VI         - Interval strength circuits & work/rest timed intervals         - Isokinetic protocols: 300°, 180°, and 60°/sec         - Complex movement patterns         • Conditioning         - Biking, jogging, swimming, & rowing         - Track workouts: advance to linear speed and sprinting drills         • Plyometrics & Agility (Double and Single Leg)         - Tuck jumps, squat jumps, bounding, SL hop, SL triple hop, SL cross over hop         - Cone drills and change of direction drills: begin with <90°, progress to 90° and greater	<ul> <li>Criteria for Advanced Agility &amp; SL Plyometrics:</li> <li>VAS ≤ 2 (Worst) &amp; IKDC ≥ 80</li> <li>Quad &amp; Hamstring strength ≥ 80% normal; ≥ 50% H/Q ratio for females</li> <li>At least 3 minutes of single leg squats (resisted)</li> <li>Jogging &gt;15 minutes on track or paved surface</li> <li>MD APPROVAL</li> </ul>
PHASE VIII 40+ Weeks	• Full	<ul> <li>Functional bracing dependent on patient activity and doctor recommendation</li> </ul>	• Full	<ul> <li>Strengthening</li> <li>Continue Previousl phases</li> <li>Conditioning</li> <li>Biking, jogging, swimming, &amp; rowing</li> <li>Interval sprint workouts</li> <li>Plyometrics &amp; Agility (2-3 days/week)</li> <li>Max effort DL and SL jumps → progress with rotation</li> <li>Lateral &amp; rotational agility drills</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Return to Play Criteria:</li> <li>VAS ≤ 2 (Worst) &amp; IKDC ≥ 80</li> <li>&gt;75/100 on ACL-RSI survey</li> <li>Quad &amp; Hamstring strength ≥ 90% normal; ≥ 60% H/Q ratio for females</li> <li>90% normal on single-leg hop tests</li> <li>95% normal figure of 8, 5-10-5 proagility, &amp; SL vertical jump</li> <li>Complete sports metrics</li> </ul>

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			<ul> <li>Unpredictable cutting agility</li> <li>Non-contact drills → contact drills with MD approval</li> </ul>	MD APPROVAL
			<ul> <li>Return to practice → contact practice → scrimmage → interval play → full play</li> </ul>	

- Do NOT change bandages unless instructed by physician
- Monitor for pain and swelling. Modify as necessary.
- Encourage home exercises program daily
- Encourage ice 4x a day for 20 minutes while swelling is present.
- If hamstring graft, no hamstring stretching x 4 weeks, no hamstring strengthening x 6 weeks
- For any questions or concerns please contact Dr. Tauberg's office