

Quad Tendon Repair Rehab Protocol

The surgeon must specify on the referral any specific recommendations or deviations outside this protocol.

Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Phase IV
Week 0-6	Week 6-12	Week 12-16	Week 16+
General Goals:	General Goals:	General Goals:	General Goals:
-Protect surgical repair	-Normalize gait	-Normalize gait	-Return to functional activities
-Gradually progress ROM 0-90°	-AROM 0-120°	-Community ambulation without	and sports
	-SLR without lag	brace	-Equal A/PROM
General Precautions:		-Single leg stance with good control	
-No knee flexion for 1 week	Brace:	for 10 seconds	General Precautions:
-No active knee ext	-Unlock brace 30-40° (or per	-Squat and lunge to 60° of knee	-Avoid running with limp
	surgeon preference)	flexion without weight shift	-Post activity soreness must
Brace:	-D/C brace at week 12 as strength	-Full AROM	resolve in 24 hours
-Locked in ext at 0° for ambulation	and motion allow		-Avoid post activity swelling
		ROM:	
Weight Bearing:	Gait:	-Full ROM	Clinical Implications:
-WBAT with brace locked at 0°	-use crutches until quad control and		-Impact control exercises
	full ext are achieved	Clinical Implications:	-Movement control exercises:
ROM:		-Advance balance and	progress low to high velocity
Week 2: Knee flexion up to 55°	ROM:	proprioceptive activities	and single to multi-plane
Week 3-6: Knee flexion up to 90°	Week 7-8: 0-115°	-Initiate single-leg CKC strength	activities
	Week 9-10: 0-130°	(squat and lunge)	-Sport/work related
Clinical Implications:		-Core strength and stabilization	proprioceptive and balance
-Patellar mobilization	Clinical Implications:	-Quadriceps strengthening: SAQ,	drills
-Quad sets	-Continue patellar mobs	LAQ with gradual progression of	-Hip and core strength
-SLRs in brace locked at 0°	-Bike without resistance for ROM	resistance	-Sport/work specific demands
-Ankle pumps	-Initiate CKC knee strength (don't	-Functional movement exercises	
-Active heel slides	load knee flexion > 70°)	-Stretching for maintenance of ROM	Criteria for Return to Sports:
-Passive extension	-Progress hip, core and ankle	-Stationary bike or stairmaster for	-No competitive sports until
-Hip strength with brace on	strength	cardiovascular exercise	cleared by surgeon
-Calf raises	-Proprioception		-Full and painless AROM
	-OKC extension		-No patellofemoral jt pain
			-MMT strength 90-100%
			contralat LE
			-≥ 85% to contralat LE for
			single leg hop test for
			distance, 6 meter timed hop
			test, triple jump cross over
			hop test and single leg squat
			test.