

Distal Realignment

(Tibial Tubercle Osteotomy)

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Weeks One To Four	Weeks Four To Six		
Initial Evaluation	Evaluate		
Range of motion	Range of Motion		
Joint hemarthrosis	Joint Hemarthrosis		
Ability to contract quad/vmo	Ability to contract quad/vmo		
Gait (PWB in long leg immobilizer)	Signs of infection or DVT		
Inspect for infection/signs of DVT	Patella mobility		
Assess RTW and sport expectations			
Patient Education	Patient Education		
Support Physician prescribed meds	Progress flexion ROM to 90 degrees as tolerated		
Reinforce use of immobilizer and assistive device	Continue use of brace and crutches until week 6		
Restate surgical precautions	➤ Reinforce precautions (WBAT continues in extension		
Discuss frequency and duration of treatment (2-	only, caution with uneven surfaces)		
3x/wk is expected for the first 8 weeks, followed	Consider core stability based exercises as appropriate		
by intermittent appointments over another 6-8			
weeks)			
Therapeutic Exercise	Therapeutic Exercise		
Review HEP (heel slides, ankle pumps, quad	Continue with quad sets and SLR activity		
sets, multi plane leg raises in immobilizer, and	Multi-angle, sub-maximal isometrics (If pain free)		
hamstring/gastroc stretching)	➤ AROM to 90 degrees as tolerated		
No quad PRE's with exception of quad sets and	Weight shifting, heel raises in brace.		
multi plane leg raise in brace	HS and gastroc stretching		
No self quad stretching			
Manual Techniques	Manual Techniques		
Initiate superior and inferior patella mobilization	No medial and lateral patella mobilization		
No medial and lateral patella mobilization	Posterior capsule mobilization (if needed)		
Initiate gentle mobilization of incision when	Incision mobilization		
appropriate			
Modalities	Modalities		
Interferential / biofeedback	➤ Initiate use of NMES		
> Ice	Other modalities may be used as needed		
Goals	Goals		
Control pain	Restore voluntary quad contraction		
Reduce joint hemarthrosis	Decrease Hemarthrosis		
Gain full knee extension	Prevent adherence of incision		
Restore voluntary quad contraction	> 0-90 degrees ROM		
Independence with post-op precautions	➤ Gait with single crutch and d/c brace at 6 weeks		
> 0-60 degrees ROM			



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Weeks Six To Eight	Weeks Eight To Ten		
Evaluate	Evaluate		
 Gait and brace needs Quad Contraction ROM Balance 	 Any ROM restrictions HEP compliance Balance 		
Patient Education			
 D/C brace if good quad contraction May need single axillary crutch to normalize gait 			
Therapeutic Exercise	Therapeutic Exercise		
 Progress to light closed chain exercises for quad contraction and proprioception (partial wallslide and leg press) at 8 weeks Bilateral dynamic balance activity 	 Initiate squatting, lunging, and step-up progressions as tolerated through this timeframe Progress to closed chain exercises on unstable surfaces at week 10 		
Manual Techniques	Manual Techniques		
 Patella mobilizations as indicated PROM and joint mobilization as indicated 	 Patella mobilizations as indicated PROM and posterior capsule stretch as indicated 		
Modalities	Modalities		
Any as Indicated	Any as Indicated		
Goals	Goals		
 Normal gait without crutches or immobilizer by week 8 Single leg stance with eyes closed for at least 10 seconds 0-125 degrees ROM Quad strength 4/5 by week 8 	 No pain with ADL's Quad strength at least 4+/5 Normal ROM 		



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Weeks Ten To Sixteen	Weeks Sixteen To Discharge		
Evaluate	Evaluate		
 Any excessive joint laxity HEP compliance Patella mobility / crepitus Balance / single leg stance 	 Isokinetic Strength testing per physician request at 16 weeks Address any deficits that may limit return to work or sport goals 		
Therapeutic Exercise	Therapeutic Exercise		
 Progress Isotonic strength training to include movement in multiple planes at 10 weeks Progress balance activity to single leg dynamic activity and unstable surfaces at 14 weeks Cardiovascular training at 12 weeks (bike, swim and elliptical) with physician approval May begin CFA at 12 weeks (with physician approval) 	 Sports specific exercises Encourage participation in the CFA Complete agility/ running activity with good isokinetic/FMS test results and physician approval at 16 weeks 		
Goals	Goals		
 5-/5 strength with manual testing by week twelve Good stability across tibiofemoral joint May complete exercise independently with intermittent follow up appointments when above criteria is met (Typically 10 to 12 weeks) 	 Strength of quadriceps and hamstrings no less than 85% per isokinetic test at 16 weeks Discharge with full return to work or sport activity 		