

## Meniscus Repair Dr. Michael Gibbons Jeff Roberts, PA-C Midwest Orthopaedic Center — Peoria, IL

|                                      | WEIGHT BEARING  | ROM   | EXERCISES  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Phase 1: 0-4<br>weeks<br>2-3x/week   | If no brace = NWB<br>with crutches<br>If TROM = WBAT<br>locked in knee<br>extension | As tolerated,<br>slowly work up<br>to 120°                                      | *No active hamstrings if posterior Horn/Root repair<br>Quad sets, ankle pumps, 4-way ankle, Supine TKE's,<br>SLR's x 4-way (if no extension lag); gait training<br>NMES to quads (20 minutes, 2-3 x/day)<br>PROM, Edema control, STM   |
| Phase 2: 4-8<br>weeks<br>2-3x/week   | Ambulate WBAT<br>D/C brace if they had<br>one                                       | Full AROM as<br>tolerated<br>No Weight-<br>bearing<br>exercises<br>>90° flexion | *No active hamstrings if posterior Horn/Root repair<br>Avoid Tibial Rotation<br>Continue/Progress phase I exs and modalities<br>Bike, Shuttle/Leg press (0-90°), step-ups, step-downs,<br>lateral step-ups; gait training  |
| Phase 3: 8-12<br>weeks<br>2x/week    | FWB   | Full  | Advance double and single leg closed chain activity.<br>Can begin hamstring PRE's on non-root/horn repairs<br>Focus on biomechanical issues of bilateral Lower<br>extremities; Elliptical; Proprioception/balance; BOSU;<br>Independent gross strengthening in gym/ home<br>program 2-3x/week. |
| Phase 4:<br>12-16 weeks<br>1-2x/week | Full  | Full  | Begin straight line running and dynamic lateral stability<br>drills; walking lunges;<br>Continue to focus on hip/knee/ankle biomechanics and<br>control.<br>Can begin hamstrings strengthening on all repairs  |
| Phase 5:<br>16-24 weeks<br>1x/week   | Full  | Full  | Begin Plyometrics and power drills<br>Progress cutting and agility drills, initiate at 25- 50%<br>speed<br>Sports-specific activity with planned RTS at 6 months   |

\*Ideally, obtain operative report to understand the location and extent of the tear/repair

\*\*Please see PT referral for any specific post op instructions including weight and motion restrictions.

Contact MD by 4 weeks post op if patient is not able to achieve full extension.

MD post op appts: 2 weeks, 6 weeks, 12 weeks, 5 months.

Please send PT progress notes prior to each of these MD appts.

This protocol is not a substitute for clinical decision making of the health care professional.