



# Distal Femoral Osteotomy Procedure

## Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol

### 0-6 weeks

- NWB for 6 weeks with crutches
- Brace locked in extension
- May remove brace for hygiene (on for sleeping for the first 2 weeks)
- ROM 0–90° (Passive, Active Assist)
- Quad sets, ankle pumps
- 2 weeks: Begin floor-based core, hip and glutes work and patellar mobilization and SLR, Progress non-weight bearing flexibility, modalities.

### 6-8 weeks

- Begin WBAT progression advance to PWB (25% then 50%) starting at 6 weeks
- Discontinue crutches when gait normalized and non-antalgic
- Discontinue brace once adequate quad control
- Full unlimited Active/Passive ROM. Advance as tolerated
- Advance closed chain quads, progress balance
- Core/pelvic and stability work
- Begin stationary bike at 6 weeks
- Advance SLR, floor-based exercise; hip/core

### 8-16 weeks

- Advance to full WBAT by 8 weeks
- Progress flexibility/strengthening
- Progression of functional balance, core, glutes program
- Advance bike, add elliptical at 12 weeks as tolerated. Swimming okay at 12 weeks

### >16 weeks

- Advance Phase IV activity
- Progress to functional training, including impact activity after 20 weeks when cleared by MD
- Lower Body Assessment when initiating return to sport progression. Schedule via QR code email or [spc@rushortho.com](mailto:spc@rushortho.com)



#### Weight Bearing Status

NWB x 6 weeks

#### Brace Settings

Locked straight x 6 weeks when ambulating or sleeping. Otherwise open brace once good quad control

#### ROM Restrictions

PROM 0–90° beginning POD 1



Exercise	Week																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	16	20	24					
Initial Exercises:																			
ROM Goals	0-90°				0-125°			Progress to full											
Flexion/extension, heel slides/seated																			
Patella/Tendon mobilization																			
Quad Series	0° ISOs, SLR				60° ISO			70-30° arc-resisted			Full arc resisted								
Hamstring series/strength progression	ISOS, hip based				Knee-based resisted arc														
Sit and reach for hamstrings																			
Ankle Pumps																			
Crutch weaning	NWB						Begin WBAT progress to full by 8 weeks												
Heel prop knee extension stretch																			
SLR (w/ brace until quad control restored)																			
Toe and heel raises																			
Balance series																			
Weight-bearing Strength Exercises:																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	16	20	24					
Double knee bends	NWB																		
Leg Bridges (2 → 1 leg)																			
Begin cord exercises																			
Leg press (ISO → reps, 2 → 1 leg)																			
Reverse lunge- static hold																			
Dead Lift (2 →1 leg)																			
Sports Test exercises																			
Cardiovascular Exercises:																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	16	20	24					
Bike with both legs-no resistance	NWB																		
Bike with both legs- resistance																			
Aqua jogging																			
Treadmill-walking (no limp)																			
Swimming with fins-light flutter kick																			
Elliptical Trainer																			
Stair stepper																			
*Cardio Exercises						Must tolerate daily walking with no limp & no significant increase in pain/swelling prior to initiating WB cardio (walk, elliptical, stepper)													
Agility Exercises:																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	16	20	24					
Running Progression	NWB																		
Initial-Single Plane																			
Advance-Multi Directional																			
Functional Sports Test																			
High Level Activities:																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12	16	20	24					
Golf Progression	NWB																		
Outdoor biking, hiking, running																			
Return to Full Sport at 6-8 months post-op																			



## Quad Series:

- Quad sets (5 sec hold) also quick contractions (NMES to supplement)
- Prone quad sets
- SLR with no extension leg
- Progression of Quad Strengthening (WB exercises at 6 weeks)
  - LAQ in safe range -no added resistance to begin
  - Once weight bearing tandem stance TKE with 5 sec hold
  - Isometric wall sit
  - SLR with resistance
  - Step up progression
  - Squat progression
  - Leg press progression
  - Lunge progression

## Hamstring Series:

- Hamstring stretching (supine/prone)
- Hamstring set (heel dig)- contract hamstring with knee flexed pressing heel into the floor (5 sec hold)
- Hamstring curls
- Progress to resisted hamstring curl

## Sport Test Exercises:

- Goals: impact training and introduction of directional drills
- Double leg squat jumps
- Box jumps
- Speed skaters
- Double leg jumps for height and distance progress to single leg as tolerated
- Blaze pod change of direction drills

## Further Clarifications and Considerations:

- Double Knee Bends: feet shoulder width apart, bend knees to 30°, keeping knees behind the toes.
- Cord exercises (resistance band/cord): resisted double knee bends, resisted hamstring curls
- May begin to implement BFR as early as 1 week into post-op period



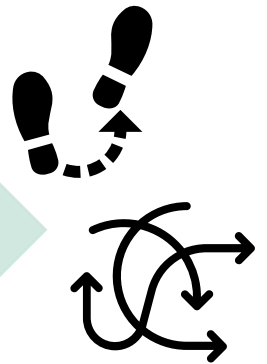
## Return to Running Criteria

- Trace effusion, flexion within 5 degrees of contralateral side
- LSI on anterior reach Y balance test  $\geq 90\%$
- LSI on quadriceps torque output on isometric measurement  $\geq 75\%$
- 12" SL squat tolerance
- Able to walk > 1 mile with no limping or pain
- Able to "hop" with UE assist on operative leg 5 times without pain or compensation
- SL balance with eyes closed 30 seconds without loss of balance



## Return to Agility/Change of Direction Criteria

- Return to running criteria listed above met
- No effusion
- Full ROM
- Quad LSI on isokinetic  $\geq 85\%$
- Hamstring LSI on isokinetic  $\geq 85\%$
- LSI on anterior reach Y-balance  $\geq 95\%$
- SL hopping pain-free and effusion free



## Return to Sport Criteria

- In order to test must demonstrate full AROM, no pain, no/trace effusion, 5/5 strength, negative lachman and pivot shift, LSI  $\geq 95\%$  hamstring curl and leg press
- Quadricep strength  $\geq 95\%$  of contralateral side (< 2cm of atrophy)
- Able to perform single leg squat with correct form
- LSI SL hop  $\geq 95\%$
- Y-Balance  $\geq 95\%$  (mean of 3 trials in anterior, posterolateral, posteromedial/100)
- Vertical jump test, single leg hop distance, and timed single leg hop over 20 -feet  $\geq 90\%$  of contralateral side

