



MENISCAL BODY REPAIR (INSIDE-OUT) Physical Therapy Protocol

Patient Name: _____ Date of Surgery: _____

_____ Evaluate and Treat

_____ Provide patient with home exercise program

Frequency: _____ x/week x _____ weeks

_____ Phase I (0 – 2 weeks):

- **Weightbearing:** Partial weight bearing with crutches.***
- **Brace:** Locked in full extension for sleeping and all activity.*
Off for exercises and hygiene.
- **Rom:** 0-90° when non- weight bearing.
- **Exercises:** Heel slides, quad sets, patellar mobs, SLR, SAQ.**
No weight bearing with flexion >90°

_____ Phase II (2-8 weeks):

- **Weightbearing:** 2-4 weeks: 50% WB with crutches.
4-8 weeks: Progress to full WB.
- **Brace:** 2-6 weeks: Unlocked 0-90°.
Off at night.
Discontinue brace at 6 weeks.
- **Rom:** As tolerated.
- **Exercises:** Addition of heel raises, total gym (closed chain), terminal knee extensions.**
Activities w/ brace until 6 weeks; then w/o brace as tolerated.
No weight bearing with flexion >90°

_____ Phase III (8-12 weeks):

- **Weightbearing:** Full.
- **Brace:** None.
- **Rom:** Full.
- **Exercises:** Progress closed chain.
Begin hamstring work, lunges/leg press 0-90°,
proprioception exercises, balance/core/hip/glutes.
Begin stationary bike.

_____ **Phase IV (12-20 weeks):**

- **Weightbearing:** Full.
- **Brace:** None.
- **Rom:** Full.
- **Exercises:** Progress Phase III exercises and functional activities: single leg balance, core, glutes, eccentric hamstrings, elliptical, and bike.
Swimming okay at 16 weeks.

_____ **Phase V (>20 weeks):**

- **Weightbearing:** Full.
- **Brace:** None.
- **Rom:** Full.
- **Exercises:** Advance to sport-specific drills and running/jumping once cleared by MD.

*Brace may be removed for sleeping after first post-operative visit (day 7-10)

**Avoid any tibial rotation for 8 weeks to protect meniscus

***Weight bearing status may vary depending on nature of meniscus repair. Please refer to specific PT Rx provided to patient for confirmation of WB status

By signing this referral, I certify that I have examined this patient and physical therapy is medically necessary.
This patient _____ would _____ would not benefit from social services.

Physician Name: _____

Date: _____