



REHABILITATION GUIDELINES  
MEDIAL PATELLOFEMORAL LIGAMENT RECONSTRUCTION (MPFLR)

POD 0-28

DOS:

- Brace locked at 0 for ambulation; wean off crutches as tolerated; Weight bear as tolerated (WBAT)
- Open brace for sitting and range of motion exercises (ROM)
- Active Assist range of motion (AAROM) to full as rapidly as possible
- MEDIAL patellar mobs- **do not move patella laterally!**
- Quad sets and straight leg raises (SLR) only for strength
- Isometric gastroc, hamstring, and hip girdle exercise

POD 29-42

DATE:

- Push for full active flexion
- May spin on stationary bike when flexion is greater than 100, and increase resistance as tolerated
- Begin treadmill
- Open brace 0-90 for ambulation, transition to Lateral J Brace when adequate quad control achieved- unless concomitant PFJ microfracture: If microfracture, then brace 0° until 6 weeks PO
- Quad sets, SLR, SAQ (short arc quad)

POD 43-56

DATE:

- Add theraband resisted closed-chain quads and ¼ squats
- Add incline on treadmill as tolerated
- Discontinue rehab brace, use patellar stabilizing brace

POD 57

DATE:

- Add elliptical trainer, stair stepper
- Progress if able to PRE with weights
- Add agility and proprioception drills
- NO twist or pivot

12 WEEKS POST-OP

DATE:

- Plyometrics, strength with emphasis on VMO
- Begin sports specific training/functional sports progression

Usual return to sport approximately four months post-op with full ROM, no effusion, good quad strength, and completed function to sports progression

**\*Brace restrictions adjusted if concomitant microfracture is performed in patellofemoral joint compartment. Continue rehab brace locked at 0 X 6 weeks, then transition to Lateral J Brace. Also, CPM out of brace 6 hours per day to increase ROM as tolerated.**