



Cartilage Repair Center

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Weight-bearing Femoral Condyle/PF

Autologous Chondrocyte Transplantation PT Protocol (#5)

Stage 3- Remodeling Phase (13+ weeks)

PRIMARY GOALS

DO NOT OVERLOAD GRAFT

INCREASE TIBIAL-FEMORAL AND PATELLA-FEMORAL MOBILITY

RESTORE QUADRICEPS CONTROL

BRACE	♦Hinged-knee brace discontinued once independent SLR achieved
GAIT	♦Weight-bearing as tolerated with crutch or cane as needed/pain allows
ROM	♦Progress towards full ROM equal to contralateral side
THEREX	♦Stationary bicycling with low resistance as tolerated ♦Treadmill forward/retro-walking encouraged ♦Nordic track and elliptical machine permitted after 6 months ♦Inline skating permitted after 9 months ♦Continue gentle closed-chain LE strengthening through functional range – terminal knee extension 0-40 degrees and 120-70 degrees extension from flexed position ♦Full active flexion with resistance permitted ♦Open-chain terminal extension with resistance
THERAPY	♦Multi-directional patella mobilization as needed ♦Continue cryotherapy and Ace wrap for edema control ♦E-stim for VMO/quadriceps muscle re-education/biofeedback as needed ♦STM to scar, hamstring insertions, suprapatellar quadriceps, medial/lateral gutters, and infrapatellar regions ♦Cryotherapy for edema control
COMMENTS	♦Physical assessment by MD required before full activities resum at approximately 1 year after surgery ♦Activity level should be modified if increased pain, catching, or swelling occurs

For Outpatient Physical Therapist:
2-3x week / 6 weeks



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