

Patellar ORIF Protocol

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Postop 0-2 weeks

Knee Brace: Hinged knee brace worn at all times, locked in full extension. Unlocked only for physical therapy sessions allowing for 0-30 degrees of motion AROM/AAROM/PROM.

Weight bearing: WBAT with the knee locked in extension in the brace.

Range of Motion: Unlocked brace only for physical therapy sessions allowing for 0-30 degrees of motion AROM/AAROM/PROM.

Strength: Isometric quadriceps, hamstring, adductor, abductor strengthening. Ankle pumps and Theraband exercises.

Postop 2-6 weeks

Knee Brace: Hinged knee brace worn while weight bearing locked in full extension. May be removed at nighttime.

Weight bearing: WBAT with the knee locked in extension in the brace.

Range of Motion: AROM/AAROM/PROM, 0-30 degrees of flexion, add 15 degrees per week, with goal of 90 degrees by 6 weeks post-op.

Strength: Isometric quadriceps, hamstring, adductor, abductor strengthening. Ankles exercises and initiate SLR.

Postop 6-10 weeks

Knee Brace: Unlocked, worn while weight bearing

Weight bearing: Full

Range of Motion: AROM/AAROM/PROM progress to full ROM by 10 weeks post-op

Strength: Quadriceps, hamstrings, adductor, abductor strengthening

Postop 10-12 weeks
Knee Brace: Discontinue
Weight bearing: Full
Range of Motion: Full

Strength: Continue Isometric quadriceps/hamstring/adductor/abductor strengthening, initiate stationary

bike

Postop 3-6 months

Return to functional activities gradually

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