

Meniscus Repair Rehabilitation Protocol

	Weight-bearing	Brace	Range of Motion	Exercises
Phase 1 0-2 weeks	Full with brace	Locked in full extension at all times when ambulating Off for hygiene and home exercise only	0-90°	Calf pumps, patellar mobilization, quadriceps tightening sets and SLR in brace . No weight-bearing motion.
Phase 2 2-6 weeks	2-4 weeks: Full with brace 4-6 weeks: Full without brace	2-6 weeks: Unlocked 0-90° Off at night Discontinue brace 6-8 weeks after clearance by physician	Advance motion to regain full ROM	Add side-lying hip and core, advance quad set and stretching ^a In brace: Addition of heel raises, total gym (closed chain), gait normalization, eccentric quads, eccentric hamstrings. Advance core work with hip, gluteal and core strengthening No weight-bearing >90° flexion
Phase 3 6-12 weeks	Full	None	Full NWB ROM 0-90° with exercises	Progress closed chain activities. Advance hamstring exercises, proprioception & balance exercises, lunges & leg press (0-90° only) Advance core work with hip, gluteal and core strengthening Begin Stationary Bike at 6 weeks
Phase 4 3-5 months	Full	None	Full	Progress Phase III exercises and functional activities: walking lunges, planks, bridges, Swiss ball, half-Bosu exercises Advance core work with hip, gluteal and core strengthening Swimming allowed at 12 weeks Advance to running/jumping and sport specific drills at 16 weeks when cleared by physician.

SLR- Straight-leg raise