Conservative Quadriceps Tendon Repair Rehabilitation Protocol

	Weight-bearing	Brace	Range of Motion (NWB)	Exercises
Phase 1 0-2 weeks	As tolerated in brace with crutches	Locked in full extension at all times including sleeping in activity Off for hygiene and exercises	None	Calf pumps, quadriceps tightening sets and SLR in brace, heel slides and patellar mobilization out of brace, modalities
Phase 2 2-8 weeks	As tolerated in brace	2-4 weeks: Locked in full extension at all times	4-6 weeks: 0-45° 6-8 weeks: 0-90°	Progress non-weight-bearing flexibility
		4-6 weeks : Off at night; locked in full extension during day		Begin side-lying core, hip and gluteal strengthening
		6-7 weeks: unlocked 0-45°		
		7-8 weeks: unlocked 0-60°		
Phase 3 8-12 weeks	Full	Hinged Knee Sleeve	Full	Progress closed chain quadriceps strengthening, progress balance, core/pelvic and stability work, lunges and leg press to 90°
				Begin stationary bike under PT supervision
Phase 4 3-5 months	Full	Hinged Knee Sleeve	Full	Glutes/ pelvic stability/core + closed-chain quad program
				Swimming permitted at 12 weeks
				Advance to sport specific drills and impact activity after 5 months when cleared by M.D.

Weight-bearing status and brace settings may vary based on procedure. Please refer to specific prescription. SLR – Straight-leg raise