



Assistant Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery Chief, Division of Sports, Bellevue Hospital

Telephone number: 929-455-2500

DISTAL FEMORAL OSTEOTOMY POSTOPERATIVE REHABILITATION PROTOCOL

Phase I (Weeks 0-6): TTWB, PROM Only

- Weight Bearing and Range of Motion
 - Toe-Touch weight bearing with crutches
 - Passive ROM: As tolerated
 - No AROM
- Brace Use
 - o Locked in full extension at all times other than PT
- Therapeutic Elements (No closed chain exercises until 6 weeks post-op)
 - o Heel Slides 0-90°
 - o Quad Sets
 - Ankle Pumps
 - o Calf/Hamstring Stretches (Non-Weight bearing position)
 - Seated Leg Raise with brace locked in full extension
 - o Resisted Plantarflexion

Phase II (Weeks 6-8): WBAT, ROM as Tolerated

- Weight Bearing and Range of Motion
 - o As tolerated with crutches begin to advance to a normalized gait pattern without crutches
- Brace Use
 - Unlocked for ambulation
 - o Remove for sleeping

• Therapeutic Elements

- Continue above
- o SLR without brace if able to maintain full extension
- o Initiate stationary bike with low resistance

Phase III (Weeks 8-3 months): Gradual strengthening and Return to Activity

- Weight Bearing and Range of Motion
 - Full weight bearing
 - o Discontinue crutches when normal gait
- Brace Use
 - o Discontinue use per physician
- Therapeutic Elements
 - o Continue above
 - Mini-squats 0-45° progressing to Step-ups and Leg Press 0-60°
 - Closed chain terminal knee extensions
 - Toe raises
 - Balance activities
 - Hamstring curls

Phase IV (3-9 months): Gradual Return to Sports

- Weight Bearing and Range of Motion
 - o Full
 - Pain-free
- Brace Use
 - None
- Therapeutic Elements
 - o Continue above with increased resistance
 - o Progress closed chain activities
 - $\circ \quad \text{Begin treadmill walking, swimming, and sport-specific activities}$
- **Return to Sports**: Progress to functional training, including impact activity after **20 wks** when cleared by MD