

ACL Reconstruction - Rehabilitation protocol

Postop	weeks			months		
	1-2	3-6	6-12	3-6	6-9	9+
Weight-bearing (normal gait pattern)	WBAT	FWB	FWB	FWB	FWB	FWB
Brace	brace not required for routine ACLR					
ROM goal	0-120	0-135	full	full	full	full
Oedema management (RICE)	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Stretching						
Heel hangs	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Hamstrings, calf, ITB, quads	✓	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Patellar Mobilisations	✓	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Strengthening						
SLR / Isometric quads & hams co-contractions	✓	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Active knee ROM (heel slides)	✓	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Closed chain (gait ed, mini-squats, leg press)	-	✓	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Hamstring curls (no resistance until 3mths)	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open chain knee extension	-	90-30	90-30	90-0	✓	✓
Hip extension, abduction, adduction	✓	✓	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Cardiovascular						
Stationary bicycle (no toe straps until 3mths)	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Step machine/swimming with straight kicks	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jogging - straight	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Proprioception						
(eg, balance board, mini tramp)	-	✓	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Dynamic stability						
(eg on/off different surfaces, in all directions)	-	-	✓	✓	p.r.n.	p.r.n.
Sport specific/agility drills						
(eg. Shuttle runs, cariocas, figure 8s)	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Plyometrics						
(eg bounding, hopping, jumping)	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Activities						
Work – sedentary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Work - heavy	-	-	?	✓	✓	✓
Driving	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sport (contact and cutting activities)	-	-	-	-	train	play