

Distal Femoral Osteotomy Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol

Name: _____

Date: _____

Diagnosis: _____

Date of Surgery: _____



Phase I: 0-4 Weeks

- **Weightbearing:** ○ Partial weightbearing (25%) with crutches and brace locked in extension (0-2 weeks) ○ Advance to full weightbearing with crutches and brace locked in extension (2-4 weeks)
- **Hinged Knee Brace:** Locked in extension for all activities (including sleeping) – removed for PT
- **Range of Motion:** AROM/AAROM/PROM – Goal of 0-90 degrees under guidance of PT
- **Therapeutic Exercises:** Heel slides 0-90 degrees, quad sets, ankle pumps, non-weightbearing calf/hamstring stretches, straight leg raise with brace locked in full extension, resisted ankle dorsiflexion/plantarflexion



Phase II: 4-6 Weeks

- **Weightbearing:** ○ As tolerated with crutches – hinged brace unlocked
- **Hinged Knee Brace:** Unlocked for ambulation – May remove at night for sleeping
- **Range of Motion:** AROM/AAROM/PROM – Goal of 0-120 degrees under guidance of PT
- **Therapeutic Exercises:** Progress phase I exercises, straight leg raise with out of brace if capable of maintaining full extension, may add stationary bicycle ○ **No Closed Chain Activities Until 6 Weeks Post-Op**



Phase III: 6-12 Weeks

- **Weightbearing:** ○ As tolerated – may discontinue use of crutches – Goal is normal gait pattern
- **Hinged Knee Brace:** Discontinue if capable of straight leg raise without extensor lag
- **Range of Motion:** AROM/AAROM/PROM – Goal: Full pain-free ROM
- **Therapeutic Exercises:** Mini-squats 0-45 degrees, progress to step-ups, leg press 0-60 degrees, closed chain terminal knee extensions, toe raises, balance activities, hamstring curls, may increase to moderate resistance on the stationary bicycle



Phase IV: 3-9 Months

- **Weightbearing:** ○ Full weightbearing with a normal gait pattern
- **Range of Motion:** Full pain-free ROM
- **Therapeutic Exercises:** Progress closed chain activities, begin treadmill walking, swimming, and sport specific activities