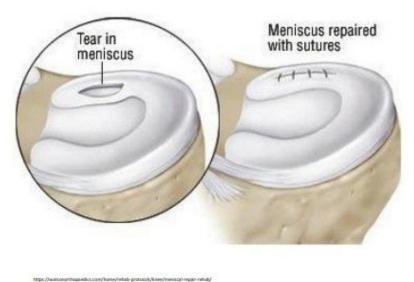
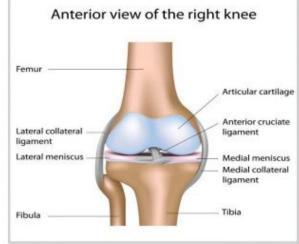


## MENISCAL REPAIR REHABILITATION GUIDELINES

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https://orthocenter-si.com/content/meniscus-tears

| PHASE 1: Immediate Post-Op (Surgery – 2 weeks) |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Goals  | <ul> <li>Control swelling and ice, compression, and elevation</li> <li>Full extension range of motion</li> </ul>  |   |  |  |
| Crutches                                       | <ul> <li>Weight bearing as tolerated with a hinged knee brace locked in full extension and crutches</li> <li>If the patient is having pain, limit weight bearing until pain free</li> </ul> |   |  |  |
| Cryotherapy                                    | <ul> <li>Cold with compression and elevation</li> <li>First 24 hours: ice every hour for 25 minutes</li> <li>After 24 hours: ice 3 times daily for at least 15 minutes</li> </ul>           |   |  |  |
| Exercises                                      | ROM   | <ul> <li>Sitting heel slides</li> <li>Prone flexion to 60 degrees</li> </ul>            |  |  |
|  | MUSCLE ACTIVATION   | <ul> <li>Quadriceps firing</li> <li>Ankle Pumps</li> <li>Prone leg extension</li> </ul> |  |  |



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| PHASE 2: Early Motion and Muscle Activation (weeks 2-6) |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Goals   | <ul> <li>Control swelling and ice, compression, and elevation</li> <li>Full extension and flexion to 90 degrees</li> </ul>   |   |
| Crutches  | <ul> <li>Weight bearing as tolerated with a hinged knee brace locked in full extension and crutches</li> <li>Avoid weight bearing flexion greater than 40 degrees</li> </ul> |   |
| Exercises   | ROM  | <ul> <li>Sitting heel slides</li> <li>Prone flexion to 60 degrees</li> </ul>                          |
|   | MUSCLE ACTIVATION  | <ul> <li>Straight leg raises</li> <li>Standing toe raises</li> <li>Hip abductor activation</li> </ul> |

| PHASE 3: Strengthening and Control (weeks 7-12) |                             |                                    |  |  |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Goals   | □ Full weight bearing       |                                    |  |  |
| Guais   | $\Box$ Full range of motion | 1                                  |  |  |
|   |                             | □ Supine heel slides               |  |  |
|   |                             | $\Box$ Prone flexion to 60 degrees |  |  |
|   |                             | □ Standing hamstring curl          |  |  |
| Exercises                                       | STRENGTHENING               | □ Stationary bike                  |  |  |
|   |                             | □ Hip abduction                    |  |  |
|   |                             | □ Wall slides                      |  |  |
|   |                             | □ Squat to chair                   |  |  |
|   |                             | □ Seated leg press                 |  |  |
|   |                             | □ Step up/down                     |  |  |



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| PHASE 4: Early Sports Training (weeks 12-24) |                               |  |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Goals  | □ Regain muscle strength      |  |  |  |
|  | □ Cardiovascular conditioning |  |  |  |
|  | STRENGTHENING                 | <ul> <li>Strength training should alternate every other day with cardio<br/>and sport training</li> <li>Transition to single leg wall slides and single leg squat to chair</li> </ul>  |  |  |
|  | CARDIOPULMONARY               | <ul> <li>This should be performed 3-4 days per week</li> <li>Stationary bicycle or elliptical machine: increase resistance prn</li> <li>Light running on a soft, level surface: start running for 5 minutes and increase to 30 minutes over a 4-week period</li> </ul>   |  |  |
| Exercises                                    | SPORT SPECIFIC<br>TRAINING    | <ul> <li>When running in line for 30 minutes is relatively east and does not cause pain or swelling, consider starting speed and agility training</li> <li>In line sprinting starting half speed for 100 yards x 10 reps</li> <li>Add cones or zig-zag running</li> <li>Add forward and backward running</li> <li>Add figure of eight running</li> <li>Add carioca</li> <li>Add shuttle run</li> </ul> |  |  |

| PHASE 5: Return to Sport (weeks 24+) |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Goals                                | <ul> <li>Return to unrestricted pivoting sports when motion and strength have returned without<br/>swelling during advanced rehabilitation</li> </ul> |

\*Portions adapted from Postoperative Orthopaedic Rehabilitation by Green, Hayda, and Hecht