



Extensor Mechanism Realignment Protocol Dr. Schaap

General considerations:

-Nonweightbearing × 6–8 weeks per MD

Time Frame	Treatment	Goals
Motion and	-Cryotherapy, elevation, compression	-Normal wound closure
Control	-Joint mobilization to patella and STM	-Full extension
0-3 weeks	-Quad NMES/biofeedback until no lag	-Full active extension
	-Hip ab/adduction, extension, flexion, gastroc and hamstring	-Good patella mobility
	stretch	-Nonweightbearing
	-Nonweightbearing-brace locked at 0	-Pain and edema
	-SLR x 4 in brace only.	controlled
Motion, Control	-Progressed ROM 30 degrees per week starting week 4.	-Flexion to 90° by 6 weeks
and Stability	-week 4 0-30, week 5 0-60, week 6 0-90 degrees	-NWB 6–8 weeks per MD
3-6 Weeks	-bike with brace on with above limitations	-Good VMO tone with
	-continue SLR x 4	quad set
		-Good patella and scar
		mobility
		-Pain and edema
		controlled
		-5/5 hip, hamstring, ankle strength
Strength, Stability	-Obtain full flexion	-Full, pain-free A/PROM
and Endurance	-WBAT with brace unlocked when adequate quad strength	-Good VMO tone
6-12	-Progress CKC exercises as tolerated	-4+/5 MMT throughout LE
	-Stability training two legs to 1 leg as tolerated	-No
	-Independence in home exercise program	effusion/patellofemoral
	-Combine OC/CKC programs	pain
	-Discontinue crutches and brace per MD	-Normal patella and scar
		mobility