Name
Therapist
Physician





Non-Operative Achilles Tendon Rupture Protocol

***Pts are required to wear boot while sleeping, may remove for bathing and dressing

***Limit Ankle Dorsiflexion to neutral through Week 6

***Splinted and NWBing x weeks 0-2

Phase 1 – Protective Early Motion Phase

Weeks 2-4 Begin Protected WBing (50%) in boot with 3 block heel lift

Modalities to control swelling

Active ROM- DF to neutral, Inversion/Eversion allowed below neutral, PF as tolerated

Soft tissue/scar mobilization to eliminate adhesions

Initiate Hip/Core Exercises and NWBing cardio (ex-well leg cycling and/or deep water running) Aquatic PT-deep water running, aquatic exercises maintaining motion and WBing restrictions Progress to WBAT with progressive WBing protocol—inc by 25% WBing per week as tolerated

Continue protocol as above

Criteria to Progress: Minimal swelling, Minimal pain, DF ROM to neutral.

Phase 2 – Gait and Endurance Phase

Weeks 4-6

Weeks 6-8 May gradually remove heel lifts, Emphasis on Gait Training w/ WBAT in boot

Continue Modalities and soft tissue/joint mobilization as indicated

Initiate gentle, slow DF stretching

Begin strengthening-isometrics all planes => theraband exercises/OKC => CKC strengthening

Initiate Proprioceptive Ex (Rhythmic stab, BAPS etc OKC=>CKC)

Bike

Weeks 8-12 Gait training-Wean out of boot into shoe (increase shoe wear time 1-2 hour per day as tolerated)

Regain full range of motion Progressive CKC strengthening

Advance proprioceptive training in CKC (bilateral=>unilateral, static=>dynamic)

Criteria to Progress: Full AROM, Normalize gait, Good strength throughout, SL balance 30 sec

Phase 3 – Advanced Strength and Proprioception

Week 12-16 End ROM stretching

Progressive Proprioceptive Training-SL dynamic training Progressive CKC strengthening –heel raises, lunges, squats

Run-Walk Program (as early as 10 weeks with normal gait and SL squat endurance 1:30)

Criteria to Progress: Excellent dynamic balance on uneven surfaces, Full LE strength, Demonstrates proper squat movement patterns, Symmetrical Y balance

Phase 4 – **Return to Sport**

Week 16+ Progressive Running Program

Sport cord training

Progressive Agility and Plyometric Training

Criteria to Progress: Pass sport cord test, Runs with normal gait, Demonstrates symmetry with functional hop tests

Surgeon Comments: