

ORIF Ankle Post-operative Protocol

Phase I- Maximum Protection (Weeks 0 to 2):

Weeks 0 to 2:

- Remain in Splint
- > Ice to reduce pain and inflammation
- > Elevate the ankle above the heart
- Non-weight bearing x 6 weeks

Phase II- Range of Motion (Weeks 2 to 8):

Weeks 2 to 6:

- Non-weight bearing in Hi-Top boot with cams locked all times except bathing and range of motion
- Gentle active dorsiflexion and plantarflexion
- No inversion or eversion

Weeks 6 to 7:

- Initiate weight bearing progressing to WBAT in Hi-Top boot with cams Locked (rest and sleep in boot)
- > Fit active ankle brace for use at wk 9
- Wk 7 open cams full
- Continue with active dorsiflexion and plantarflexion

Weeks 7 to 8:

- Week 7 Initiate gentle active inversion and eversion
- Initiate gentle strengthening
- > Open cams on boot (continue to rest and sleep in boot)
- Begin stationary biking

Phase III- Progressive Strengthening (Weeks 9 to 12):

Weeks 9 to 10:

- Out of boot, into ankle brace (Velocity or Donjoy) to be used when weight bearing only
- Begin progressive weight bearing w/o boot with ankle brace
- > Full active range of motion
- > Full strengthening and proprioception drills
- > Begin stationary biking in shoe at week 9 with brace
- Begin pool walking program progressing to jogging at week 12

Phase IV- Advanced Strengthening (Weeks 12-16)

- Continue with end range stretchingProgress strengthening and proprioception work
- Lower extremity PRE gym program
 Initiate jogging 10-12 weeks based on progress
- ➤ Initiate agilities 12-14 weeks

Return To Play at 4 months Per Physician Release

Revised 4/7/04