



**ACL HAMSTRINGS AUTOGRAFT RECONSTRUCTION  
REHABILITATION PROTOCOL**

	<b>WEIGHT BEARING</b>	<b>BRACE</b>	<b>ROM</b>	<b>EXERCISES</b>
<b>PHASE I</b> 0-4 weeks	As tolerated with crutches*	<b>0-1 week:</b> Locked in full extension for ambulation and sleeping  <b>1-4 weeks:</b> Unlocked for ambulation, remove for sleeping**	As tolerated	Heel slides, quad/hamstring sets, patellar mobs, gastroc/soleus stretch  SLR w/ brace in full extension until quad strength prevents extension lag
<b>PHASE II</b> 4-12 weeks	Full, progressing to normal gait pattern	Discontinue at day 28 if patient has no extension lag	Main full extension and progressive flexion	Progress Phase I  Begin toe raises, closed chain quads, balance exercises, hamstring curls, stationary bike, step-ups, front and side planks, hip/glute/core, pool
<b>PHASE III</b> 12-16 weeks	Full, without use of crutches and with a normalized gait pattern	None	Gain full and pain-free	Advance closed chain strengthening, progress proprioception activities  Begin stairmaster, elliptical and running straight ahead

<b>PHASE IV</b> 16-24 weeks	Full	None	Full and pain free	<b>16 wks:</b> Begin jumping <b>20 wks:</b> Advance running to sprinting, backward running, cutting/pivoting/changing direction, initiate plyometric program and sport-specific drills <b>22 wks:</b> Advance as tolerated FSA completed at 22 wks***
<b>PHASE V</b> > 6 months	Full	None	Full and pain free	Gradual return to sports participation after completion of FSA Maintenance program based on FSA

\*Modified with concomitantly performed meniscus repair/transplantation or articular cartilage procedure \*\*Brace may be removed for sleeping after first post-operative visit (day 7-10)

\*\*\*Completion of FSA (Functional Sports Assessment) not mandatory, but recommended at approx 22 wks post-op for competitive athletes returning to play after rehab