

Iliopsoas Release Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol

0-4 Weeks:

• Weight-Bearing Status:

o Partial weight-bearing (PWB) with crutches or walker for the first 2 weeks. No brace needed post-surgery.

• Range of Motion (ROM) and Mobility:

- Start with passive range of motion (PROM) for the hip, progressing to activeassisted range of motion (AAROM).
- Begin passive hip flexion with the knee bent, ensuring hip flexion does not exceed 90 degrees.
- o Do **NOT** exceed 90° of hip flexion.
- o Avoid active straight leg raises.

• Strengthening and Exercises:

- o Isometric hip exercises (avoid flexion).
- o Glute sets and pelvic tilts.
- o Ankle pumps for circulation.
- o Clamshells and reverse clamshells.
- o Prone lying to help reduce proximal tightness.
- o Begin stationary bike at Week 2, limiting hip flexion to no more than 80°.
- Perform upper body circuit training.
- o Continue weight-bearing as tolerated (WBAT), and discontinue crutches when able.
- o Progress passive hip flexion beyond 90° gradually.
- Continue hip passive ROM and increase resistance on the stationary bike as tolerated.

• Progressive Strengthening:

- o Begin quarter squats, progressing to full squats by Week 8.
- o Isometric quadriceps and glute sets.
- Supine double leg bridges.
- o Start aqua gait training at Week 6, pending incision healing.
- o Begin core isometrics and leg press exercises.
- o Continue soft tissue mobilization as needed.
- Stretch hip flexors and IT band.
- o Continue progressing hip ROM.

4-6 Weeks:

• Weight-Bearing Status:

o Progress to WBAT, and discontinue crutches if tolerated.

• Exercise Progression:

- o Begin single-leg balance exercises.
- Start lunge progression.
- o Continue progressing hip ROM and strengthen the lower extremity.
- o Progress hip and core strengthening.
- o Begin unilateral leg press and unilateral cable column rotations.
- o Perform step-downs and step-ups.
- o Stretch hip flexors, glutes, piriformis, and IT band (manual and self-stretching).
- o Progress balance and proprioception training.

6-8 Weeks:

• ROM and Strengthening:

- o Continue to progress hip ROM and stretching.
- o Focus on lower extremity and core strengthening.
- o Incorporate endurance activities for the hip.
- o Gradually advance walking, biking, and elliptical tolerance.
- o Begin dynamic balance activities.
- o Add treadmill side-stepping on level surfaces, progressing to inclines.

8-10 Weeks:

• Exercise and Functional Training:

- Continue progressing hip ROM and strengthening exercises for the lower extremity and core.
- o Begin sport-specific drills and agility training.
- o Progress running at Week 16.
- o Initiate single-plane activities at Week 20, progressing to multidirectional movements.

10-12 Weeks:

• Advanced Strengthening and Sports Preparation:

- o Focus on endurance training and progressive core strengthening.
- o Continue step-down progression.
- o Add knee extensions and hamstring curls.
- o Begin swimming, pending incision healing.
- o Incorporate elliptical training starting at Week 8.

12+ Weeks:

• Return to Activity:

- o Full return to sports around 6 months post-surgery.
- o Focus on core strengthening, avoiding hip flexor tendonitis.
- o Incorporate superman exercises on a physioball.
- o Continue with sport-specific and agility drills.
- o Progress to more dynamic balance activities.

Note: Progression through these phases should be based on individual recovery, with all exercises adjusted as necessary under the guidance of your surgeon and physical therapist. Regular follow-ups with the surgical team are crucial to ensure optimal recovery