

## PATELLOFEMORAL ARTHROPLASTY

Post-Operative Rehabilitation Protocol

## 0-3 Weeks:

- Weight-bearing as tolerated (WBAT) with the knee locked in extension.
- Gentle passive range of motion (PROM) exercises.
- ROM goal by week 2: Achieve 0° of extension and 110° of flexion.
- Begin weaning off assistive devices to unassisted ambulation starting on post-op day (POD) 0, as directed by physical therapy (PT).
- Perform heel slides.
- Light strengthening for the hip abductors.
- Supine straight leg raises (SLR) with the brace locked at 0°.
- Quadriceps isometrics with the brace locked at 0°.
- Ankle pumps.

## 3-6 Weeks:

- Unlock the brace for ambulation; gradually wean off the brace once adequate quadriceps control is achieved.
- WBAT without assistive devices.
- Continue progressing ROM towards full range.
- Advance strengthening exercises for the quadriceps and hip abductors.
- Perform double knee bends and double leg bridges.
- Begin cord exercises and balance squats.
- Start deadlift and leg press progressions.
- Begin elliptical, swimming, and rowing exercises at 5 weeks.

## >6 Weeks:

- Continue progressing previous exercises.
- Start incorporating sport-specific test exercises.

- Initiate running progression.
- Begin with single-plane activities and progress to multidirectional movements at 8 weeks.

**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