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#### **Post-operative Rehabilitation Protocol**

**Hip Gluteal Tendon Repair** 

#### Phase 1 (0-2 weeks post op):

Goals	<ul> <li>Protect repair</li> <li>Control post-operative pain, inflammation, and swelling</li> <li>Emphasis on compliance to HEP and WB precautions/restrictions</li> </ul>
Brace/Precautions/ Crutch Use	Weight bearing:
Range of Motion	<ul> <li>Gentle PROM         <ul> <li>Hip flexion to 90°</li> <li>Hip abduction as tolerated</li> <li>Hip extension to neutral</li> </ul> </li> <li>No passive hip adduction, external rotation, or internal rotation</li> <li>No active hip abduction or internal rotation</li> </ul>
Strengthening	<ul> <li>Upright stationary bike with no resistance – push pedal with non-op leg</li> <li>Joint mobilization</li> <li>Soft mobilization (gentle scar massage and hip flexor massage)</li> <li>Hip isometrics in extension and adduction</li> <li>Quad sets, hamstring sets</li> <li>Lower abdominal activation</li> </ul>
Home Instructions	<ul> <li>Keep surgical dressings clean and dry</li> <li>Change surgical bandages on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day after surgery (keep covered until first clinic visit)</li> <li>Avoid getting sutures wet until at least 5 days after surgery (do not scrub, soak, or submerge the incisions)</li> <li>Note DVT (blood clot) prophylaxis medications provided by your surgeon to take following surgery – follow those instructions carefully</li> </ul>

### Phase 2 (2-6 weeks post op):

Goals	<ul> <li>Control pain and inflammation</li> <li>Promote healing</li> <li>Continue with physical therapy and range of motion</li> </ul>
Brace/Precautions/ Crutch Use	<ul> <li>50% weight-bearing with crutches</li> <li>Advance weight-bearing gradually with goal to wean off crutches at week 6-8         <ul> <li>Gait training/crutch weaning</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Range of Motion	<ul> <li>Slowly advance ROM as tolerated</li> <li>Active-assisted hip abduction/internal rotation</li> <li>PROM external/internal rotation and adduction to neutral</li> <li>AROM hip flexion</li> </ul>

Strengthening	<ul> <li>Continue as above</li> <li>Progress to isometric resistance</li> <li>Core stabilization and strengthening exercises</li> </ul>
Home Instructions	Restore normal activities of daily living
Suggested Exercises	<ul> <li>Continue Phase 1 exercises as appropriate</li> <li>Quad/hamstring isotonic exercises</li> <li>Quadruped rocking</li> <li>Supine bridges</li> <li>Prone hip extension</li> <li>Include stretching         <ul> <li>Manual hip flexor stretching</li> <li>Modified Thomas position</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Phase 3 (6-12 weeks post-op):

Goals	<ul> <li>Normalize gait, work on symmetry</li> <li>Advance ROM</li> <li>Continue pain and inflammation control</li> </ul>
Precautions	Weight-bearing as tolerated (wean by week 8 if not yet done)
Range of Motion	<ul> <li>Progress PROM as tolerated</li> <li>Start active hip abduction and internal rotation</li> </ul>
Strengthening	Progress lower extremity and core strengthening as tolerated
Home Instructions	<ul> <li>Restore normal activities of daily living</li> <li>Progress slow walking on level surfaces</li> </ul>
Suggested Exercises	<ul> <li>Continue from phase 2</li> <li>Eccentric step downs</li> <li>Lateral walks, side stepped – no bands</li> <li>Balance and proprioception – start bilaterally</li> <li>Continue stretching – manual and self-directed <ul> <li>Hip flexor</li> <li>Adductor</li> <li>Glutes</li> <li>Piriformis</li> <li>ITB</li> <li>TFL</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# Phase 4: after 12 weeks post-op

Goals	<ul> <li>Full range of motion</li> <li>Work towards normalizing gait</li> </ul>
	Return to normal ADLs and prior level of function
Precautions	Pain with therapeutic exercise & functional activities

Range of Motion	Progress to full active ROM     Resisted abduction and internal rotation
Strengthening	<ul> <li>Gradually progress strengthening of hip abductors/adductors</li> <li>Continue to advance LE strengthening and flexibility</li> <li>Advance core stability and strength</li> </ul>
Home Instructions	<ul> <li>Maintain normal activities of daily living</li> <li>Normalize gait</li> </ul>
Suggested Exercises	<ul> <li>Continue to advance LE strengthening, flexibility with exercises in phase 3</li> <li>Focus on gait normalization</li> <li>Lunges</li> <li>Plyometrics</li> <li>Balance and proprioception progression to single leg as tolerated</li> <li>Advance core stability</li> <li>Continue stretching</li> </ul>