

Rehabilitation Protocol: Microfracture of the Femoral Condyle

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Phase I (Weeks 0-8)

- **Weight bearing:** Touchdown weight bearing (20-30% of body weight max) for 6-8 weeks - No Bracing Required
- **Range of Motion** - Continuous Passive Motion (CPM) Machine for 6-8 hours per day for 6-8 weeks
 - Set CPM to 1 cycle per minute - starting at level of flexion that is comfortable
 - Advance 10° per day until full flexion is achieved
 - Passive Range of Motion and stretching under guidance of PT
- **Therapeutic Exercises**
 - Quadriceps/Hamstring isometrics
 - Heel slides

Phase II (Weeks 8-12)

- **Weight bearing:** Advance to full weight bearing as tolerated -- discontinue crutch use
- **Range of Motion** - Advance to full/painless ROM
- **Therapeutic Exercises**
 - Closed chain extension exercises
 - Hamstring curls
 - Toe raises
 - Balance exercises
 - Begin use of the stationary bicycle/elliptical

Phase III (Months 3-6)

- **Weight bearing:** Full weight bearing
- **Range of Motion** - Full/Painless ROM
- **Therapeutic Exercises**
 - Advance closed chain strengthening exercises, proprioception activities
 - Sport-specific rehabilitation
 - Gradual return to athletic activity as tolerated - including jumping/cutting/pivoting sports
 - Maintenance program for strength and endurance