



GENERAL ANKLE ARTHROSCOPY REHAB PROTOCOL

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This protocol is based on goal-oriented progression. Each patient is different and should be treated according to their tolerance in therapy. Please feel free to call with any questions. Therapy begins at about 10-14 days post procedure. Weight bearing may be limited if cartilage repair techniques were used to treat OCD of the talus for 6 weeks.

Phase I:

Goals:

Decrease pain
Decrease edema and inflammation
Increase painfree range of motion and simulate collagen alignment
Prevent kinesthetic shut down
Patient education

Plan:

Modalities as needed: ice; electrical stimulation; phonophoresis; iontophoresis/
electrical stimulation
ROM: stretching, self-assisted stretches, joint mobilization/ PROM, AROM in
dorsiflexion and plantar flexion only
Strengthening: isometrics, T-Band, manual resistive exercises
Initiate balance and proprioceptive exercise in non-weight bearing positions:
-sitting BAPS drills in dorsiflexion and plantar flexion only
Aquatic therapy if needed to meet above goals

Phase II

Goals:

Increase to full range of motion and diminish swelling
Increase strength to good-normal
Normalize gait and progress to weight bearing exercise
Improve kinesthetic and neuromuscular control

Plan:

Modalities PRN
Stretching in weight bearing and non-weight bearing positions

Strengthening: advance with phase I: calf strengthening with weight and in weight bearing positions. BAPS sitting and standing, progressive trampoline (weight shifting and balance activities), initiate hip and knee strengthening
Proprioceptive exercise
Stationary bicycle, advance to EFX, treadmill

Phase III

Goals:

Increase strength
Increase proprioception
Increase endurance

Plan:

Advance strengthening in closed chain (leg press, calf raises)
Continue to advance proprioception
Incline treadmill
Stairmaster

Phase IV

Goals:

Return to sport

Plan:

Continue to advance strengthening: progressing weights
Begin plyometric drills
Advance proprioception: trampoline drills, jumping
Agility drills: side stepping, backpedaling, circle running, figure eight sports cord
Stairmaster, treadmill, walk/run, interval training
Sport specific activities; i.e. soccer drills