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Physical Therapy Prescription for:

label

**Diagnosis:** Achilles Tendon Rupture **Surgical Procedure:** Achilles Tendon

Repair

**Date of Surgery:** 

Eval & Treat: 2x/week x 16 weeks

#### **ROM GUIDELINES:**

- Weeks 2-4: active dorsiflexion to NEGATIVE 10 degrees, AROM only
- ➤ Weeks 4-6: active dorsiflexion to neutral only, AROM only
- ➤ Weeks 6-10: active dorsiflexion as tolerated, AROM only
- ➤ Week 10: continue AROM, start gentle PROM/stretching as tolerated

### **Immediate Postoperative Period: 0-2** weeks:

- > Elevate foot to eliminate swelling
- > NWB in plaster splint

# Weeks 2 to 6 (Goal: edema control, protect repair, early ankle mobility):

- Partial weight bearing in boot with heel lift
  - o Week 2-4: 3 wedges
  - o Week 4-6: 2 wedges
- Early ankle mobility
- > Straight leg raises
- Weeks 2-6: muscle stimulation only
- ➤ Blood flow restriction: starting weeks 2-3 during AROM, continuing with progression to open and closed chain exercises

## Weeks 6 to 8 (Goal: protect repair, regain PROM, begin strengthening):

➤ Weight bearing as tolerated in boot with heel lift (1 wedge)

- ➤ Ok to remove boot to sleep
- ➤ Weeks 6-10: Therabands progressing to seated calf raises; ok to start stationary bike-low resistance, no riding out of saddle
- > Gait retraining
- > Gentle progressive stretching

#### Weeks 8 to 12 (Goal: walk normally):

- Wean out of boot to sneaker with heel lifts x3, remove one layer of lift each week in sneaker until flat (by week 11)
- Week 10: light closed chain strengthening, double limb heel raises, ok to ride stationary bike out of saddle, high resistance
- > Double leg heel raises
- > Reconditioning, Strengthening
- Weeks 10-12: light jogging

# Weeks 12 to 16 (Goal: return to sport training):

- ➤ Can start heavy resistance strengthening as tolerated, open chain exercises, start running, plyometrics as needed
- ➤ Cutting, side-to-side maneuvers, agilities
- > Sport specific training
- ➤ Plan for return to sport by 4-5 months

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Lauren H. Redler, M.D.

Date