

## William A. Tyndall, M.D., Ph.D. 3000 Fairway Drive, Altoona, PA 16602 814-231-2101

## Post-Operative Instructions: ACL Reconstruction/Patellar Reconstruction

- 1. The following medications are recommended:
  - a. Percocet- Take 1 pill every 4-6 hrs as needed for pain
  - b. Zofran- Take 1 pill every 6 hrs as needed for nausea
  - c. Mobic- Take 1 pill twice a day with food for inflammation
  - d. ASA 81- take 1 pill twice a day for blood clot prevention
- 2. Loosen brace straps and apply ice to the knee directly over the bandage. Ice at least 20min 5 times a day for the first 48 hrs.
- 3. Elevate the operated leg as much as possible during the first 48hrs and then as necessary. When elevating, place pillow under heel not behind knee.
- 4. Brace should remain on and locked in full extension, including sleep, at all times until you return to the office.
- 5. The dressing will frequently have a pinkish discharge around the knee. This is normal.
- 6. Weight bearing:
  - a. Weight bear as tolerated on the leg. Crutches are provided for comfort. Most patients take 7-10 days to get comfortable with weight bearing.
  - b. Do not bear weight on leg. Use crutches at all times.
- 1. You may shower after 48hrs. Keep leg dry. Use a plastic dressing or bag and tape. Brace must remain on. Avoid immersion in bathtub or pool for 2 weeks.
- 2. Start leg exercises on back of sheet, while wearing the brace, as soon as tolerated, usually within 24-48 hrs.
- Call Dr Tyndall or the office if you notice any redness, increased warmth, swelling, or discharge from incisions or if the post-operative discomfort increases and is not relieved by a combination of applying ice, elevation and taking pain medicine as directed.
- 4. Dr. Tyndall call be reached at 814-574-1855. The office can be reached at 814-942-1166. If you are experiencing an emergency go to the ER or call 911.