
Bunionectomy Rehabilitation Protocol

Weight Bearing:

- Non-weight bearing for 2 weeks (Chevron) or 3 weeks (midshaft osteotomy)
- Partial Weight bearing in **boot** 3rd week (Chevron) or 4th week (midshaft)
- Weight bearing as pain allows after 4th week (Chevron) or 5th week (midshaft)
- Transition into supportive shoe with wide toe box. Full weight bearing.

Toe Bracing:

- Week 1-2: Keep operative bandage in place.
- Week 3-4: Use foam toe spacer at all times including showers.
- Week 5-8: Use toe spacer or neoprene sleeve at all times. Remove for showers.
- Week 9-12: Wear toe spacer or neoprene sleeve for sleep.

Strength and Motion:

- 6 Weeks: Begin passive and active DF/PF of 1st MP joint.
 - Intrinsic Mobilization and Strength
 - Ankle Proprioception
 - Stationary Bike
- 8 Weeks
 - Global Ankle Strength
 - Elliptical
- 12 Weeks
 - Progressive Open chain ankle and foot stresses
 - Outdoor Biking
 - Evaluate and correct walking gait abnormalities
- 16 Weeks
 - Slow progress to in-line running and impact conditioning.
 - Eventually work on cutting/rotational control if personal activities warrant.
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Home Exercise Program: Transition to home program when appropriate.

NOTE: The rate that healing occurs differs between people. This protocol may be enhanced or delayed depending on radiographs, pain, and swelling. Please lessen activities which cause pain and swelling.

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