Nonoperative Hip Protocol

| | Phase I: Tissue Healing | Phase II: Early Functional Recovery |
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| Weight-Bearing and Immobilization | No immobilization necessary WBAT (wean crutches or other assist devices if being used) Normalization of gait pattern | |
| Aerobic | • None | Low-impact exercise as tolerated (stationary bike, elliptical, swimming other than breast-stroke) |
| Range of Motion (ROM) | Maintain ROM Hip flexion: 0-90° Hip IR: as tolerated Hip ER: 0-30° Knee flexion: 0-90° | Full PROM Progress to full AROM |
| Strengthening | Light isometric exercisesAvoid straight leg raises | Progress strengthening exercises to include core, hip abductors, hip external rotators, and quadriceps (closed chain) |
| Other | Modalities as needed to reduce swelling and for muscle re-education Avoid any activity which causes anterior or lateral hip impingement Monitor and be aware of any low back and/or SI joint dysfunction Monitor for and avoid onset of hip flexor and abductor tendonitis, particularly in patients with weak proximal hip musculature (activity modification and decreasing inflammation is prioritized over other exercises if tendonitis is present) Home Exercise Program (HEP) per discretion of Physical Therapist | |
| Goals | Pain control Regain normal gait Decrease tissue inflammation Decrease swelling Minimize joint stiffness | Regain normal ROM Improve strength |

| | Phase III: Late Functional Recovery | |
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| Weight-Bearing and Immobilization | No immobilization necessary WBAT (wean crutches or other assist devices if being used) Normalization of gait pattern | |
| Aerobic, Range of Motion (ROM), and strengthening | Advance aerobic exercise as tolerated Begin with walk-jog-run progression but may not progress to running until abductor strength is equal to contralateral side Advance strengthening to include hip flexors and focus on hip flexors and abductors May begin balance and proprioception exercises for pelvis and hip stability May begin plyometric exercises Progress to sport-specific activity when full strength and muscle coordination has been achieved | |
| Other | Modalities as needed to reduce swelling and for muscle re-education Avoid any activity which causes anterior or lateral hip impingement Monitor and be aware of any low back and/or SI joint dysfunction Monitor for and avoid onset of hip flexor and abductor tendonitis, particularly in patients with weak proximal hip musculature (activity modification and decreasing inflammation is prioritized over other exercises if tendonitis is present) Home Exercise Program (HEP) per discretion of Physical Therapist | |
| Goals | Advance strength Progress aerobic exercise Begin advanced exercise program to include balance, proprioception, and plyometric exercises Return to all full activities and sports as tolerated | |