

# Knee Injury

## Patient Information

MSK (Musculoskeletal) Therapy



The Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website is available on the link:  
<https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets> or scan the QR code.

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## Disclaimer

Not all exercises are suitable for everyone and while every precaution was taken in selecting these exercises, they do not come without risks. If you have any concerns regarding injury, or whether or not you should partake in the exercises, then you should consult your GP or Physiotherapist prior to commencing any exercises shown here.

It is quite normal to feel some discomfort following exercise, but it is important that this discomfort eases within 2 hours of finishing the exercise and doesn't have an overall negative effect on your symptoms.

The exercise plans shown here are designed to be used as a guide and a point of reference, they are not exhaustive and can be modified and progressed under the supervision of your physiotherapist.

## Introduction

Knee injuries are usually caused by trauma, and normally will improve within six weeks if adequately managed.

## Symptoms

1. Pain
2. Swelling
3. Bruising / Redness
4. Heat
5. Decreased Mobility

## Treatment

Self-treatment should be commenced immediately.

Remember

### PRICE =

- P** - Protection
- R** - Rest
- I** - Ice
- C** - Compression
- E** - Elevation

If your condition fails to improve over **One Week**; contact your GP, Physiotherapist or Accident and Emergency Department.

## Protection

Protect the injured leg by avoiding situations that are likely to cause further harm such as excessive walking/weightbearing, unstable surfaces etc.

## Rest

“**Relative**” rest means removing excessive strain from the knee. Reduce the length of time you spend standing and walking. Gradually increase activity and movement over 48 hours.

## Ice

Use a bag of ice or frozen vegetables wrapped in a damp cloth and apply for approximately 20 minutes, **NO LONGER**. Repeat at least four times per day. Only apply an ice pack to your skin if your skin has normal sensation and is not broken, damaged or cut.

## Compression

Strapping or bandaging with light compression will help contain swelling.

## Elevation

Raising your knee above hip level, will help decrease swelling (e.g. sitting with your foot on a stool).

Avoid =

## HARM

- H** - Heat
- A** - Alcohol
- R** - Running
- M** - Massage

## Early Movement

Early movement is essential for a full recovery but for the **first 24 / 48 hours** following injury is to stick to the advice on **PRICE**. Below are some useful exercises to promote movement. Perform these exercises a few times per day.

## Static Quadriceps



- Sitting or lying down with legs out straight.
- Bend your ankles, point your toes towards you and push your knees down firmly against the bed/floor.
- Hold for 5-10 seconds and then relax.
- Repeat x 10.

## Straight Leg Raise (SLR)



- Sit or Lie with Legs out straight.
- Point your toes towards you; Tighten your thigh muscles at the front of your leg and lift your whole leg approximately 15cm off the ground. Aim to keep your knee completely straight.
- Hold for 5-10 seconds then slowly lower.
- Repeat x 10.

## Seated Knee Flexion



- Sitting on a Chair; keep your heel in contact with the floor throughout.
- A towel or cloth can be used to assist with the movement by reducing friction on a smooth floor.
- A plastic/wooden tray could be used similarly if performing on a carpet.
- Slide your foot back and forth, bending your knee. Aim for FULL movement.
- Repeat x 10.

## Lunge on Step



- Place your foot on the bottom step of a staircase or on a stool.
- Keep foot flat and bend your knee forwards in a lunge motion.
- Ensure you are balanced throughout the exercise (i.e. use of handrail).
- Repeat x 10.

## Sit – Stand (Chair Squat)



- Start by Sitting on the edge of a Chair with feet shoulder width apart.
- Attempt to Stand Up with/without using your hands.
- Repeat x10



Technique: Bend from the Hips, lean forward and drive up into a Standing Position; ensuring your Bodyweight is directed through your heels. Seek assistance/support if needed to lower back down.

## Single Leg Balance



- Aim to Stand on One Leg.
- Try keeping your Pelvis level throughout.
- Ensure you begin by holding onto a Supported Surface. (i.e. Kitchen Worktop/Back of a Chair).

Aim to achieve **Equal Periods of Time** held on both Legs.

## Contact Details

If your Symptoms are not improving or you have any concerns; please contact one of the following:

**Fracture Clinic Physiotherapy Team:** Telephone 01942 822103

**Fracture Clinic Nursing Team:** Telephone 01942 822109

If you are over 16 you can also now self-refer into Physiotherapy by ringing any of the departments below or by completing an online self-referral form on our website:

**[www.wvl.nhs.uk/msk-services](http://www.wvl.nhs.uk/msk-services)**

**Boston House Health Centre** Telephone 01942 482260

**Leigh Infirmary** Telephone 01942 483413

**Platt Bridge Health Centre** Telephone 01942 482403



Please use this space to write notes or reminders.

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## Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends, and carers.

## Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager  
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust  
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## Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the positives and negatives of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



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## How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use, and store the information we hold about you, please see patient information leaflet, Ref. **Corp 006** How we use your information, this can be found on the Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website, see details on the front cover.

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille, and other languages upon request. For more information, please ask in the department/ward.

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