ACL Reconstruction with Bone-Patellar Tendon-Bone (BTB) Autograft and Meniscal Repair (All Inside) Protocol

	Weight-baring	Brace	Range of Motion	Exercises
Phase 1 0-6 weeks	Full in brace (a)	0-2 week: Locked in full extension for ambulation and sleeping	Passive 0-90° by 2 weeks	Calf pumps, patellar mobilization, quadriceps tightening sets and SLR in brace. No weight-bearing motion.
		Off for exercises and hygiene only		Add side-lying hip and core, advance quad set and stretching (a)
		2-6 weeks: Unlocked 0- 90°for ambulation, remove for sleeping (a)		In brace: Addition of heel raises, total gym (closed chain), gait normalization, eccentric quads, eccentric hamstrings
				Advance core work with hip, gluteal and core strengthening
				No weight-bearing with flexion >90°
Phase 2 6-12 weeks	Full, progressing to normal gait pattern	Discontinue at 6 weeks if quadriceps control is adequate (no extension lag)	Gain full and pain- free	Begin toe raises, closed chain quads, balance exercises, hamstring curls, stationary bike, step-ups, front and side planks, hip/glute/core
Phase 3	Full with a normalized gait pattern	None	Full	Advance closed chain strengthening
12-16 weeks				Progress proprioception activities
				Begin stair climber, elliptical at 8 weeks and running straight at 12 weeks when 8" step down is satisfactory
Phase 4	Full	None	Full	16 weeks: Begin jumping
16 weeks –				20 weeks: Advance running to sprinting, backward running, cutting, pivoting, changing

6 months				direction, initiate plyometric program and sport- specific drills			
				22 weeks: Advance as tolerated			
				FSA completed at 22 weeks (b)			
Phase 5	Full	None	Full	Gradual return to sports participation after			
6-12 months				completion of functional sports assessment (FSA)			
				Maintenance program based on FSA			
SLR – Straigl	SLR – Straight-leg raise						

(a) Modified with concomitantly performed meniscus repair/transplantation or articular cartilage procedure

(b) Completion of FSA (Functional Sports Assessment) is not mandatory, but is recommended at approximately 22 weeks post- op for competitive athletes returning to play after rehabilitation