Appendix 1: Physical Therapy for Patellar Tendinopathy

| Authors | Type of Study | Treatment (by group) | Number of Subjects (total/study group) | Results | Authors' Conclusion | Grade of recommendat ion |
|---|---------------------------------|---|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| Jonsson and Alfredson ³⁷ | Prospective randomized trial | 1. Painful eccentric exercise program 2. Painful concentric exercise program (both done on decline board) | 15 (19 tendons/10 tendons) | At 12-week follow-up, VAS was significantly improved in the eccentric exercise group | Eccentric exercise training on a decline board seems to reduce pain in jumper's knee | В |
| Young et al ⁹¹ | RCT | Traditional eccentric exercise protocol Eccentric exercise protocol with decline board | 17/8 | At 12 weeks and 12 months, both groups improved. At 12 months, the decline group had a higher likelihood of an increase in VISA scores | Both exercise protocols improved pain and sporting function in volleyball players over 12 months. This study indicates that the decline squat protocol offers greater clinical gains during a rehabilitation program | A |
| Bahr et al ⁶ | RCT | Primary surgery Eccentric training on a decline board | 35 (40 tendons/20 tendons) | At 12 months, both groups improved in VISA score; however, there was no significant difference between groups | No advantage was demonstrated for surgical treatment compared with eccentric strength training. Eccentric training should be tried for 12 weeks before surgery | A |

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|----------------------------|---------------|---|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| Visnes et al ⁸⁴ | RCT | 1. Eccentric training protocol with decline board 2. No extra training | 29/13 | At 12 weeks, no statistical difference between the groups | There was no effect on knee function from a 12-week program with eccentric training among a group of volleyball players with PT who continued to train and compete during the treatment period | A |
| Frohm et al ²⁶ | RCT | 1. Bilateral eccentric squat training program 2. Eccentric training protocol on decline board | 20/10 | At 12 weeks, no statistical difference between groups | In patients with PT, two-legged eccentric overload training was as safe as the present standard daily eccentric 1-legged rehabilitation training regimen using a decline board | A |

PT, patellar tendinopathy; RCT, randomized controlled trial; VAS, visual analog scale; VISA, Victorian Institute of Sport Assessment.

Appendix 2. Summary of Surgical Studies for Patellar Tendinopathy

| Authors | Type of Study | Treatment | Number of Subjects (total/study group) | Results | Authors' Conclusion | Grade of recommendations |
|--|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| Popp et al ⁶⁵ | Retrospective review | Open debridement of affected tissue | 11 | At average 2.1 years: 7 excellent, 3 good, 1 poor | In select patients, excellent results can be achieved with surgical treatment | D |
| Griffiths and Selesnick ³¹ | Retrospective review | Open debridement of affected tissue | 7 | At average 4.2 years: 6 excellent, 1 fair | Recommend surgical intervention in patients who fail conservative treatment | D |
| Ferretti et al ¹⁸ | Retrospective review | Open debridement of affected tissue/drilling inferior pole of patella | 33 | At average 8 years: 23 excellent, 5 good, 1 fair, 4 poor | The outcome of surgery is satisfactory but less predictable in volleyball players | D |
| Shelbourne et al ⁷⁷ | Case series | Open debridement of affected tissue with multiple longitudinal cuts in the tendon | 22 | At average of 8.1 months, 14/16 patients returned to same sport at prior level of intensity | Surgical debridement and tendon stimulation along with aggressive rehabiliation was found to be effective in returning athletes back to their level of competition | D |

| Authors | Type of Study | Treatment | Number of Subjects (total/study group) | Results | Authors' Conclusion | Grade of recommendations |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|---|---|--|--------------------------|
| Lorbach et al ⁴⁹ | Case series | Arthroscopic resection of inferior pole of patella | 20 | At 2 years: 18/20 excellent to good | Arthroscopic resection of the inferior pole of the patella produces satisfactory clinical results in function and pain reduction | D |
| Pascarella et al ⁶² | Case series | Arthroscopic debridement of affected tissue and inferior pole patella resection | 73/27 athletes | At 1 and 3 years, IKDC, Lysholm and VISA-P scores improved significantly; 19 athletes returned to previous level of play | Arthroscopic surgery for PT in cases refractory to nonoperative management provides significant improvement maintained at least 3 years. | D |
| Santander et al ⁷³ | Retrospective review | Arthroscopic debridement of affected tissue | 23 | At average 58 months,19/23 returned to previous level of play | Arthroscopic surgery is comparable to open techniques and a high percentage of athletes returned to their previous activity level. | D |

| Authors | Type of Study | Treatment | Number of Subjects (total/study group) | Results | Authors' Conclusion | Grade of recommendations |
|---------------------------|---------------|--|---|--|--|--------------------------|
| Maier et al ⁵³ | Case series | Arthroscopic debridement of synovium and fat pad | 30 | At average of 4.4 years, all pain and functional scores improved; 23/30 returned to previous level of play | Arthroscopic debridement of the synovium and fat pad produced excellent to good results in a majority of cases in patients with refractory PT. | D |

IKDC, International Knee Documentation Committee; PT, patellar tendinopathy; VISA, Victorian Institute of Sport Assessment.