



## **SEARCH TERMS - LOWER EXTREMITY INJURY MEDICAL TREATMENT GUIDELINES**

The Table below represents the specific search terms used for the Division of Workers' Compensation Lower Extremity Injury Medical Treatment Guidelines. Article titles containing an obvious mismatch with search criteria were eliminated: eg. pediatric population; wrong intervention; wrong body part.

**Inclusion criteria:** Studies in English; Human; Adults (Specific Search Terms, dates of searches, years spanned and numbers of articles selected are in the table below).

**Limiting Criteria:** RCT **OR** Meta-analysis

**Database:** PubMed

**Number of articles initially identified: 2,485**

**Number of articles excluded from those initially identified: 1,797**

**Number of articles selected for further review: 688**

**Number of articles used to support evidence statements ("Strong, Good, Some"): 184**  
"Strong Evidence"- 21      "Good Evidence"- 85      "Some Evidence"- 78

**Division Definitions of Strength of Evidence:**

- "Some" means the recommendation considered at least one adequate scientific study, which reported that a treatment was effective. The Division recognizes that further research is likely to have an impact on the intervention's effect.



- “Good” means the recommendation considered the availability of multiple adequate scientific studies or at least one relevant high-quality scientific study, which reported that a treatment was effective. The Division recognizes that further research may have an impact on the intervention’s effect.
- “Strong” means the recommendation considered the availability of multiple relevant and high-quality scientific studies, which arrived at similar conclusions about the effectiveness of a treatment. The Division recognizes that further research is unlikely to have an important impact on the intervention’s effect.

**Abstracts were reviewed and articles were then excluded based on the criteria below:**

- Lack of relevancy to workers’ compensation non-chronic back pain population
- Major obvious errors in study protocol (eg. lack of control group even though study was listed as an RCT).
- Whether they were included in another meta-analysis (eg. Cochrane Collaboration, BMJ Clinical Evidence).
- Duplicates
- Study too old
- Cadaverous studies
- Pediatric population
- Preliminary results
- Healthy volunteers
- Studies not applicable to treatment guidelines spine conditions, such as tumor studies.
- Studies too technical in nature to meet the objective of the guideline (examples, types of screws used in surgery).

**The Date of the Search:** was October 2014.

**The Search Comprised the years of** December 2008, to October, 2014.

**Limiting Criteria was:** Human; Adults; Meta-analysis; Randomized Controlled Trial

**The Search Terms were as follows:**



➤ **Foot and Ankle:**

- Achilles Tendon
- Ankle Osteoarthritis
- Foot Osteoarthritis
- Subtalar Joint Dislocation
- Ankle joint dislocation
- Ankle Sprain
- Ankle Fracture
- Calcaneal Fracture
- Ankle Osteochondral Defects
- Heel Spur
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Metatarsal-phalangeal Arthropathy
- Tarsal-Metatarsal Arthropathy
- Interphalangeal Arthropathy

➤ **Knee:**

- Knee diagnostic arthroplasty
- Knee Osteoarthritis
- Anterior Cruciate Ligament
- Patellar Bursitis
- Femoral Osteochondral Deficit
- Medial Collateral Ligament
- Knee Meniscus
- Tibial Osteochondral Deficit

- Midfoot Fracture
  - Lisfranc Fracture
  - Morton's Neuroma
  - Pilon's Fracture
  - Puncture Wound Foot
  - Foot Crush Injury
  - Stress Fracture Foot
  - Stress Fracture Ankle
  - Talar Fracture
  - Tarsal Tunnel Syndrome
  - Patellar Tendon Fracture
  - Foot Orthotic
  - Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy Foot or Ankle
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- Patellar Fracture
  - Patellar Subluxation
  - Patellar Tendon
  - Patellofemoral Syndrome ( or "patellar femoral pain syndrome")
  - Posterior Cruciate Ligament
  - Continuous passive movement knee
  - Continuous passive motion knee



➤ **Hip and Leg:**

- Acetabular Fracture
- Hip Osteoarthritis
- Femur avascular necrosis
- Femur Fracture
- Hamstring Tendon Rupture
- Hip Dislocation

➤ **Non-Operative Treatment:**

- Intra-articular steroid (*plus knee, hip, ankle*)
- Viscosupplementation or Acid Salts or Hip or Knee (*alternative term: hyaluronic acid*)
- Prolotherapy hip or knee
- Neuromuscular re-education
- Lower Extremity Orthotic
- Therapeutic Exercise

➤ **Operative Treatment**

- Ankle Fusion
- Subtalar Fusion
- Ankle Arthroplasty
- Knee Arthroplasty

- Hip Fracture
- Hip Labral Tears
- Hip Impingement
- Pelvic Fracture
- Tibial Fracture
- Trochanteric Fracture

- Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy Fracture
- Manipulation hip or knee or ankle
- Mobilization hip or knee or ankle
- Vasopneumatic device (*alternative term: venous thrombosis*)
- Platelet-Rich Plasma Knee or Hip

- Hip Arthroplasty
- Tibial Osteotomy
- Human Bone Morphogenetic Protein and long bone fracture