TREATING THE INJURED RUNNER

RUN SAFE RUN FAST
with Scott Greenberg

Helpful pearls for immediate implementation
Why Do Injuries Occur?

• Can it be a foot / ankle issue?
• Can it be a knee issue?
• Can it be a hip/core issue?
• Can it be related to lack of strength?
• Can it be related to lack of ROM/flexibility?
• Can it be related to poor neuromuscular control?
• Can it be due to poor balance?
YOU CAN NOT PREDICT THE CAUSE OF THE INJURY BASED ON DIAGNOSIS!
• Think about how the kinetic chain works with regards to loading.
• Prolonged loading leads to stress somewhere along the chain.
• Influence of footwear and how the body can compensate
Relationship between Form and Compensatory Bank

- Goal – increase bank
- Goal – limit reasons to draw from the bank
How we typically deal with these issues

• Strengthen (neuro re-ed) weak tissue (eccentrics?) -

• Stretch and mobilize tight tissues and restricted joints

• Tape and or brace to offload

• Footwear changes?

• Modalities for pain control
How does this treatment philosophy change when dealing with runners?

• It doesn’t!!
• Same Principles apply
• Why are we “running specialists”? 
WHAT DOES DIFFER IS THE UNDERSTANDING WE HAVE FOR THE MECHANICS OF RUNNING AND HOW TO INCORPORATE THIS UNDERSTANDING INTO IDENTIFYING THE BIOMECHANICAL FLAW LEADING TO OVERLOAD, EXERCISE PRESCRIPTION AND ACTIVITY MODIFICATION
First Step to Treatment

• Identify the cause! (form, bank, or both)
• Why we succeeded in the past without addressing form.....or did we??
Initiate Treatment Strategies

• Usually don’t attempt running until can walk without pain (however walking and running are different)

• Initiate running drills with and without assistance and assess quality of movement and pain

• Walk : Run Progression

• Running Rules
  – No pain >3/10
  – No increase in pain during or after
  – No alteration in form due to pain
WAYS TO FACILITATE RUNNING A BIT QUICKER.....
Assistive Strategies

• Achilles tendonopathy
  – Heel lift, PECH Shoes, orthoses, taping to offload achilles or control pronation

• Post tibialis tendonopathy
  – Orthoses, PECH shoes, taping to support insertion and control pronation

• Plantar Fasciitis
  – Orthoses, PECH shoes, taping techniques to support arch

• PFPS
  – Taping and bracing to improve PF tracking
Achilles Unload
Arch Tape
Plantar Fascia Support
PF Tracking
Posterior Tibialis Unload/Support
Fat Pad unload
STRENGTH TRAINING FOR RUNNERS
1. Planks
2. Lower body Russian twist
3. Scorpion
4. Swiss Ball back extension
5. KB squat with OH press
6. OH lunge
7. Swiss ball jackknife
8. Swiss ball hip extension
9. Rotational shoulder press
10. Alt. dumbbell row

10 Essential Strength Exercises for Runners

Do these 10 exercises consistently, and you’ll run faster and stronger.

PROBLEMS
MUST HAVE COMPONENTS

- Hip Strengthening
- Foot Strengthening
- Core/Posture/Pillar
- Neuromuscular Control
- Plyometric
- Single leg stance
Does running late count as Exercise?
# Running Exercise Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exercise</th>
<th>Hip Strength</th>
<th>Foot Strength</th>
<th>Core/Posture</th>
<th>Plyometric</th>
<th>Neuromuscular control</th>
<th>Single leg stance</th>
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<td>Depth jump</td>
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<td>Pass the weight supine/sitting</td>
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Strengthening Guidelines

• Think higher reps
• Strength train post run
• Importance of proper form
• Shoes off stresses more balance/foot strengthening
Exercise Examples
STRENGTHENING IN REVIEW

• A complete program will include
  – Balance component
  – Unilateral loading
  – Plyometric components
  – Target core, glutes, foot intrinsics
  – Transverse plane / rotational control

Be creative!! There is no perfect 1 exercise for everyone
STRENGTHENING IN REVIEW

- How many reps are appropriate?
- What is the focus?
- Where is the patient in the rehab process?
- Practice does NOT make perfect.....Perfect Practice make Perfect!!! Importance of motor pathways.