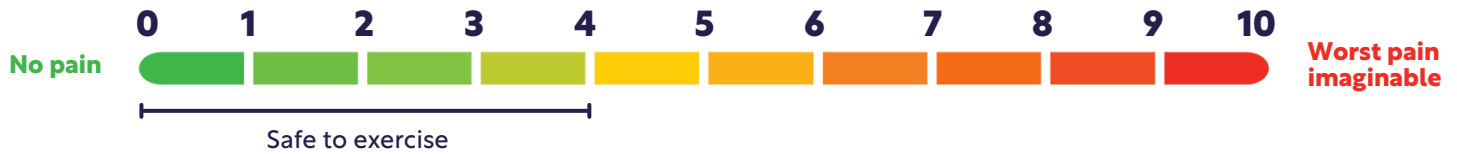


Patellofemoral Joint Pain

Early Programme

Aim to perform this programme a minimum of once per day unless prescribed otherwise. As with any new exercise, start slowly (repetitions as able) and build up as you are able within the guidelines below. Pain should not exceed 4/10 whilst completing this exercise programme.



1. Heel slide

- Lay flat on your back or sit supported upright with the legs out straight on a flat, smooth surface – preferably wearing socks to reduce friction.
- Slowly slide your heel along the surface up towards you by bending the knee, ensuring your knee remains in line with the hip and ankle.
- Bring the heel as close to the hip as possible.
- After a 2 second hold, begin straightening the knee by sliding the heel away from you.
- **Perform this exercise up to 10 times, rest for 1 minute.**
- **Repeat routine 2 to 3 times.**



2. Inner range quads

- Lay flat on your back or sit supported upright with the legs out straight.
- Position a pillow/rolled up towel under the knee to support it in a slightly bent position.
- Push the back of your knee down into the towel/pillow by tightening the muscles at the front of your thigh – your heel may come off the floor.
- Hold the squeeze with moderate pressure for 5 seconds before gently releasing the pressure.
- **Perform this exercise up to 10 times, rest for 1 minute.**
- **Repeat routine 2 to 3 times.**



3. Supported squat

- Start with the feet shoulder width apart and hold onto a stable object (e.g., Bannister or kitchen sink) at about waist height.
- From this position bend your knees and sit backwards as if you are sitting into a chair.
- As you do so lean slightly forwards at the hips so that your head stays over your feet.
- Make sure that your weight is going through your heels at all times.
- Go as low as you feel comfortable but no lower than your thighs parallel with the floor.
- **Perform this exercise up to 10 times, rest for 1 minute.**
- **Repeat routine 2 to 3 times.**

We recommend consulting a musculoskeletal physiotherapist to ensure exercises are best suited to your recovery. If you are carrying out an exercise regime without consulting a healthcare professional, you do so at your own risk. If you have any concerns whilst completing these exercises, please contact a healthcare professional.