

## **Title Page**

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Comparison to Medicine

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## **1. Introduction:**

Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries, one of the four main ligaments in the knee, are frequently caused by the Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) being ripped or stretched above its normal range of motion. The thighbone (femur) and shinbone (tibia) are joined by the Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), a powerful band of tissue that aids in stabilizing the knee joint. Research in the Journal of Biomedical engineering found that sports involving cutting, pivoting, and jumping actions are the ones most likely to cause Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries. ACL injuries are more common among athletes who play sports like football, basketball, and soccer (McLean, Mallett, & Arruda, 2015).

The severity of an Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury can range from a minor stretch or tear to the ligament being completely ruptured. An Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury presents with immediate pain, swelling, and a popping sound, as well as difficulties bearing weight on the injured knee, instability, and a sense that the knee is giving way (McLean, Mallett, & Arruda, 2015).

A physical examination, imaging tests like an MRI, and a battery of tests to gauge the stability and range of motion of the knee are frequently used to diagnose an ACL injury.

ACL injuries can be treated with physical therapy, bracing, and surgery. People who are less active or have less serious injuries may benefit from nonsurgical treatment options like physical therapy. In contrast, athletes or others who are more physically active and want to return to sports are frequently advised to consider surgical treatments like ACL repair, which includes replacing the damaged ligament with new tissue (Diermeier, et al., 2020).

All things considered, ACL tears are frequent and potentially catastrophic knee injuries that can affect both athletes and physically active people. Early detection of the damage and adequate treatment, such as surgery or physical therapy, can increase the likelihood of a full recovery and lessen its long-term repercussions (Post, et al., 2017).

Injuries to the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) are frequent among student-athletes, especially in activities requiring cutting, pivoting, and jumping. ACL injuries are 2 to 8

times more common in female athletes than in male competitors. The disparity between males' and girls' neuromuscular control and muscle strength may be one factor contributing to this greater risk. According to research in The American Journal of Sports Medicine, compared to male sports, female athletes had weaker hip muscles and less effective neuromuscular control, which can put more strain on the ACL (Stevenson, Beattie, Schwartz, & Busconi, 2015).

Another factor contributing to student athletes' high rate of ACL injuries is the increased emphasis on year-round, specialized training and the pressure to perform well. According to research in the American Journal of Sports Medicine, players who specialize in one activity and engage in it year-round are more likely to get an ACL injury than those who participate in many sports (Wiggins, Grandhi, & Myer, 2016).

ACL injuries are also more likely when sufficient conditioning and training are lacking. According to research in the Journal, student-athletes who don't perform the right warm-up, cool-down, and strength training activities are more likely to have an anterior cruciate ligament injury (LaBella, Hennrikus, & Hewett, 2014).

ACL injuries are recovered by either physiotherapy or operative method, and medication is not very effective in case of ACL injury. Thus, a comparison of operative and non-operative methods in ACL injury is discussed instead of the effectiveness of the medicine.

ACL injuries are a common injury among student-athletes and are influenced by a combination of factors such as gender, muscle strength, neuromuscular control, specialized training, and proper conditioning. Physiotherapy is much more effective in the case of ACL injuries as compared to medications. However, operative methods are also required along with physiotherapy to completely recover the energy.

## **2. Section 2:**

### **2.1. Physiotherapy helps avoid surgery for ACL injuries:**

Knee instability is frequently brought on by anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries, which frequently call for surgery to regain stability and function. However, in some situations of Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury, physical treatment can be quite helpful in preventing surgery. According to one study, people with Anterior cruciate

ligament (ACL) injuries who are not candidates for surgery can get positive results through a thorough physical therapy program that includes exercises to increase muscular strength and control.

Sixty individuals with ACL injuries were enrolled in the trial and split into two groups; one group received physiotherapy, while the other group received no care.

Compared to the group that received no treatment, the physiotherapy group had considerably better knee stability and function, as well as a reduction in discomfort after 12 weeks. The study revealed that physiotherapy could be useful in assisting those with Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries to return to sports. This study was published in the Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery. One hundred thirty-one patients with Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries who received physiotherapy and rehabilitation were included in the research. 89% of the patients had reached their pre-injury level of sports involvement after an average of 8.5 months (Shelbourne & Nitz, 2016).

An anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) occurs at a higher rate in people who are highly involved in sporting activities. Females are considered to be at a higher risk of developing the Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) as compared to men because the tensile strain increases on the Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) due to the activation of the quadriceps in females rather than the hamstrings (Petushek, Sugimoto, & Myer, 2019).

Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries can be prevented by closed kinetic chain exercises; these physical exercises help and encourage the movement of both the major muscles, the quadriceps and the hamstrings, and can help isolate the muscles to make them stronger. Open-chained kinetics exercises can also be beneficial in suppressing Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries. According to the research in the International Journal of Sports Physical Therapy, the sufficient ratio for the co-activation of the hamstring and quadriceps to decrease the chance of injury and force on the ACL is approximately 42-72 degrees of knee flexion. The moment arm of the hamstring is the highest between 50-90 degrees of knee flexion, and the moment arm of the quadriceps is between 20-60 degrees of knee flexion (Dedinsky, Baker, Imbus, Bowman, & Murray, 2017) . During the early stages of rehabilitation of

muscle injuries, exercises that produce a poor hamstring-to-quadriceps ratio should be avoided.

Younger athletes who develop an Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) and are getting physiotherapy for it may recover from Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), but if they get back to their previous level of activity, such as sports activities, they might get a second Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury because the first one is not completely recovered and it is important to decide whether to treat it surgically or non surgically. If the patient is suffering from functional instability, it is recommended that ACLR surgical treatment is given to that person; however, it is still unknown what is the best practice for treating the Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), either surgical or nonsurgical. If the person decides to take nonsurgical treatment, then rehabilitation is provided to that person for about five months, and that person is recommended to stay away from any type of physical activity. Another option other than surgical and nonsurgical treatment for the athletes is to adjust sports participation which might reduce the risks of Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury. Different physical therapy exercises are provided to these individuals progressively to help prevent Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). Physiotherapists have to consider the choices and the wishes of the patients as it might help in better decision-making and better outcome of the results

In conclusion, by enhancing muscular strength, joint stability, and function, physiotherapy can be a useful strategy in aiding in the prevention of surgery for Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries. Working closely with the patient to assess the injury and design a personalized rehabilitation program that will enable the patient to regain their pre-injury level of function and resume sports is crucial for the physiotherapist.

## **2.2. Medicinal Capacities to cure injuries:**

Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries are frequent and can be extremely detrimental. An important ligament in the knee, the Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), aids in stabilizing the joint and limiting excessive motion. The prevalent belief that an Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury cannot heal has been disproved by new research, which suggests that anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) ruptures can mend without surgery and that this may be important for improving patient outcomes.

Numerous factors, such as sports-related activities, falls, and automobile accidents, can result in Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries. An anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) is a common issue in football players and can lead to different problems; too if left untreated, it can be cured with physical therapy but sometimes becomes difficult to cure so surgery is the best option. Some players, when they return to the field after the surgery continue to have knee problems and may require another surgery. the ACL injury rate in male football players is increasing continuously; different studies have shown that Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries can be prevented by neuromuscular training programs are programs that aim at attaining stabilization in the joints by performing different exercises i.e. physical therapy of the nerves and the muscles can be trained

Over time, medicine has made considerable strides in the treatment of Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries. The treatment of ACL has improved because of basic science and clinical studies, and they continue to advance with time; both surgical and nonsurgical methods can be used. The most frequent form of treatment for ACL damage is surgery, which is quite effective in stabilizing the knee joint. Surgery is not without dangers and problems, though, and not all patients are suitable candidates for it (Grindem, 2014). In ACL reconstruction, surgery is done to gain back the stability of the knee joint it is a process of removal of the torn ligament and replacement of it with the band of tissues. An anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), if left untreated, can lead to several different problems related to osteoarthritis, which is the breaking down of the cartilage within the joint and the changing of the bones. One of the most common orthopaedic operations is considered to be ACL reconstruction. According to the National Centre for Health Statistics, about 63000 ACL reconstructions were performed in the U.S. in 1991 (Brown & Carson, 1999). Over 200 thousand surgeries costing over 3 billion dollars take place every year in the U.S. ( Alshewaier, Yeowell, & Fatoye, 2016). Before the reconstruction surgery, a pre-rehabilitation exercise program is provided for the maximum outcome of the rehabilitation process and also to successfully prepare the knee for the reconstruction process. this pre physiotherapy rehabilitation before the surgery will help increase the strength of the muscles and their functional ability. The risk of pivot shift episodes can also reduce, which may help with the reconstruction after the surgery. Preoperative physiotherapy rehab helps with improving the outcomes of the

Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). The widespread use of anatomical ACL reconstruction procedures has been made possible by advances in our understanding of the anatomy and function of the natural Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). For successful surgical or nonsurgical treatment of the Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), rehabilitation is an important factor that involves physical therapy which helps brace knee joints and successfully get back to sports.

Physical therapy is a crucial component of Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury treatment. Physical therapy is the treatment of any kind of injury using different methods like exercises etc to help achieve desirable movements of the muscles and the joints. Physical treatment can assist to increase the damaged joint's range of motion, strength, and flexibility, which can enhance overall function and lower the risk of additional injury (Aesch, Perry, & Sole, 2016).

Despite medical advancements, treating Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries can still be challenging. According to research, many patients still have pain and activity limits after surgery and physical treatment. It's also important to note that recovery from surgery still presents significant challenges because it's imperative for the patient to rebuild muscle strength, range of motion, and proprioception to avoid re-injury.

Even though medicine has made great progress in the treatment of Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries, there is still room for improvement. The knee joint can be successfully stabilized again with surgery, but there are risks and potential problems. Physical therapy is a crucial component of care, and medicine might not be sufficient to fully recover the function of the injured joint. As a result, it's crucial to treat Anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries using a multidisciplinary approach and to have reasonable expectations for the course of action (Monk, et al., 2016).

### **2.3. Operative vs Non-Operative methods to cure ACL injury:**

An important stabilizing ligament in the knee joint is the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). An ACL injury is a frequent sports-related injury that can result from a quick knee turn or twist, rupturing the ligament. Depending on the degree of the damage, different treatments can be used for ACL injuries, but the main objectives are to stabilize the knee joint and lessen discomfort and swelling. An ACL injury is widespread in athletes and youth participating in sports and extreme physical

activities. It is an injury that cannot be healed independently, and its treatment is mandatory. There are two practical approaches to healing ACL injury, i.e. Operative and Non-operative. The benefits of one system over another and the best method for treating ACL injuries are specific discussion points. There are three general trends among patients with ACL injuries. i.e. The patient can return to the routine without using the operative method, avoid instability by reducing their activity level, and face instability due to ACL injury and cannot return to the previous routine.

In surgical procedures for ACL injuries, the ligament is rebuilt using a graft, typically from the patient's body or a donor. Physical therapy, bracing, and activity modification is non-operative treatment options. The technique that is being used for the physiotherapy should be according to the patient's condition (Aesch, Perry, & Sole, 2016). Surgical techniques generally are more successful at stabilizing and regaining function for the knee joint. Operative techniques, however, carry some risk and a chance of complications. Non-operative treatments can be a good option in the short term and might be a good choice for people who can't have surgery (Diermeier, B, Rothrauff, & Wilk, 2020).

Operative and Non-operative methods are best for treating ACL injury, depending upon the injury's severity and the patient's response to the injury. These methods go hand in hand as an operative method helps you reduce laxity, while physiotherapy and nonsurgical procedure allow you to improve instability. The choice of the technique for the treatment can be made by correctly analyzing the patient's situation (Diermeier, B, Rothrauff, & Wilk, 2020).

Some patients have the potential to heal from ACL injury by using physiotherapy. But detecting such patients is quite tricky, and as a result, experimentation was done among the patients with ACL injuries. It has been observed that 40% of patients that have used physiotherapy to fight against ACL injury required the surgical method for ACL construction. Similarly, the people who went through surgeries needed physiotherapy and physical training to recover appropriately from the injury. From this study, we can infer that both operative and non-operative methods are acceptable in case of ACL injury depending upon the patient's physical goals after recovery, the severity of the injury and the damage done (Diermeier, B, Rothrauff, & Wilk, 2020).



Moreover, the decision between the operative and non-operative methods should not be entirely in the hands of the doctors. The physical activity level of the patient's remaining life is at stake, so the better way to choose is to share the actual damage and the consequence of each treatment approach. The patients should decide depending on their goals and expectations after the recovery. In short, the patient and the practitioner should be the main stakeholders in a shared decision-making process that considers the evidence for surgical and nonsurgical therapies and the patient's expectations and aspirations (Diermeier, B, Rothrauff, & Wilk, 2020).

Investigation shows us that some injuries are concomitant with ACL injury, and you have to consider them while choosing the approach between operative vs non-operative technique. The worst-case scenario when late ACL reconstruction is done can lead to osteoarthritis. In such cases, it is advised to have anatomic ACL restoration along with other meniscal damage care. Moreover, it has been observed that the case of multiple ligament injuries with ACL injury can be resolved much better using surgical and operative techniques (Wang, Zeng, Yan, Li, & Ni, 2020).

The research suggests that one should choose between operative and non-operative methods by considering their expectations and the fitness level they want to achieve after the recovery. People who are related to sports and want to return to their athletic activities can rely on non-operative techniques. But this approach can lead to secondary injuries, and this method should be considered considering the risks and threats. You can suggest the non-operative way to people interested in going to the straight plan activities. Such cases can be resolved by using specific neuro-muscular training. Thus, different approaches have different results and consequences, and you should choose the treatment method accordingly.

### **Conclusion:**

From the above discussion, we can conclude that ACL injury is a serious injury whose treatment is necessary. It would be best to deal with it responsibly and with great care to recover from the injury properly. The only solution for ACL injury at early times was using operative and surgical methods, which were quite expensive, and specific risks came with the ACL injury. But with time, physiotherapy and non-operative methods were suggested to treat the ACL injury.

The physiotherapy results were impressive, and there were no side effects. ACL injuries can be effectively treated with physiotherapy. A physiotherapist will create a customized training regimen based on the patient's physical capabilities and the degree of the ailment. The programme typically includes exercises that increase range of motion, strengthen the muscles around the knee, and enhance balance and proprioception.

Research has shown that physiotherapy for ACL injuries can be just as successful as surgery, especially for less active people or who play non-contact sports. Moreover, physical therapy can enhance overall knee function and quality of life while lowering the chance of re-injury.

Although, the physiotherapy failed in case of severe damage and secondary injuries were also observed after that. The two methods were serving their purpose to some extent, and as a result, their comparison was natural. But, after experimentation and research, it was concluded that both the operative and non-operative methods are necessary for the effective recovery of the patient. Moreover, the right choice of technique mainly depends on various factors, including the severity of the injury, the presence or absence of secondary injuries, the patient's potential to recover and the patient's expectations after the recovery.

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