#### 04/15/2019



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### **District Track is HERE!**



OSTC specializes in the care of orthopedic and sports injuries. As part of our commitment to athletes everywhere and the schools we cover, OSTC has a Sports Medicine Mobile Trailer. "The Trailer," as we like to call it at OSTC, will be at the upcoming district and area track meets.

The Sports Medicine Mobile Trailer is staffed by highly trained and experienced athletic trainers and physical therapists. It is also field with helpful modalities, such as; e-stim, hot-packs, ultrasound, and cold packs. OSTC also brings a licensed massage therapist to the district and area track meets to help

with pre and post event massages when needed.

The Trailer may be small but it carries almost everything an athlete could need to get ready for their big event.

OSTC also sells district track shirts out of The Trailer. Be sure to come buy a shirt before they sell out, or you can just swing by to just say "hi" to your favorite physical therapist or athletic trainer!

Good luck to all those competing at District Track!

## **Rehab for Rapid Recovery of Pulled Hamstring**

The hamstring muscles, located at the back of the thigh, are comprised of three muscle groups. Injuries to this muscle are common in athletes participating in sports such as football or basketball. They are also common in 'weekend warriors' and individuals who participate in walking, jogging or running without a period of adequate warm up and stretching.

This muscle group allows your knee to bend, and plays a critical role in every activity involving the lower body. Your hamstrings are contracting every single time you take a step, climb a flight of stairs or get in and out of your car.

## The anatomy of this muscle group

The three muscle groups that comprise the hamstrings include the biceps femoris, semi-membranosus and semi-tendinosus. A partial or complete tear of either of these muscles is a likely possibility in hamstring injuries.

#### Cause of hamstring muscle injury

A sudden, excessive stress on this muscle group is a common cause of injury. An individual with a previous history of hamstring injuries is more likely to get re-injured. Hamstring muscle tightness and inadequate warm-up can also cause injuries.

## **Restoration of Control**

In addition to the restoration of strength and mobility, an important objective of physical therapy is the restoration of muscle control and balance following hamstring injuries.

When the hamstrings are injured, the strength ratio between the quadriceps (muscles at the front of the thigh) and the hamstrings is also impacted. Weakness or tightness in the hamstrings (as a result of an injury) can also put you at an increased risk of injury to the ACL, or anterior cruciate ligament, which is a ligament that facilitates with knee stability.

Exercises involving balance, weight bearing and unexpected shifts in direction can improve strength and stability in the hamstring muscles. For an athlete recovering from hamstring injuries, a physical therapist will work on motor control and help train sport-specific movements.







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#### March is National Athletic Training Month!

What is Athletic Training?

- Athletic training encompasses the prevention, examination, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of emergent, acute or chronic injuries and medical conditions.
- Athletic training is recognized by the American Medical Association (AMA), Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as an allied health care profession.

#### Who are Athletic Trainers?

- Athletic trainers (ATs) are highly qualified, multi-skilled health care professionals who collaborate with physicians to provide preventative services, emergency care, clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions.
- Athletic trainers work

Whether you are a weekend warrior or an athlete suffering from a hamstring injury, physical therapy can help. In fact, the scope of physical therapy extends far beyond hamstring injuries and includes pain relief and restoration of function for any muscle injury in the body. Give us a call, and we'll help you regain control of your muscles as quickly as possible.

# The Role of the Physical Therapist

The role of the physical therapist is extremely important in managing patients with hamstring injuries. Prior to treatment, the therapist will obtain a detailed history and perform a clinical examination to ascertain the degree of injury and the muscle groups involved. This will help create a foundation for a safe and effective treatment program.

If the injury was sustained recently, the therapist will recommend rest, since the primary goal is to avoid an increase in pain and excessive strain on sensitive muscles and ligaments. You may be asked to avoid exercise and in some cases, avoid walking. You may be asked to use crutches for support.

In an effort to deal with the pain associated with such injuries, the therapist may recommend an ice pack and a compression bandage to reduce swelling.

Physical therapists will prescribe and supervise a structured exercise program once the acute injury phase (and the associated pain and swelling) has subsided. These can include -

1. Muscle strength exercises - including static and dynamic strength exercises to help regain strength as quickly as possible.

2. Range of motion - including active and passive range of motion exercises that can be partial, or complete range of motion. This helps maintain mobility and minimize muscle tightness.

3. Provision of support devices - The use of assistive devices like crutches, walkers or canes to walk short distances is helpful for patients during the recovery phase. The physical therapist will help analyze the need for such a device, identify the right device (if needed) and assist in acquiring such a device.

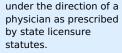
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• Athletic trainers must graduate from an accredited baccalaureate or master's program, and 70% of ATs have a master's degree.

## What People are Saying about OSTC:

• Everybody in the clinic is friendly and professional. They make healing fun!

Great care and attention

• Very happy with this facility and staff. Amber is always helpful and a joy to see. Lucas always makes PT go by faster/ more entertaining

- My care has been excellent from beginning
- Everything excellent
- Really like the laser therapy. It feels good and helped my healing
- I have received more and better treatment here than any other rehab place. The therapists and techs are wonderful

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