

PES ANSERINE BURSITIS

Pes anserine bursitis is an inflammation of the bursa (A bursa is a fluid filled sac that helps to provide cushioning around bony prominences) located between the shinbone (tibia) and three tendons of the hamstring muscle at the inside of the knee. It occurs when the bursa becomes irritated and produces too much fluid, which causes it to swell and put pressure on the adjacent



Pes anserine bursa



Pain and tenderness on the inside of your knee, approximately 2 to 3 inches below the joint, are common symptoms of pes anserine bursitis of the knee.

Pes anserine bursitis is common in athletes, particularly runners. People with osteoarthritis of the knee are also susceptible.

Several factors can contribute to the development of pes anserine bursitis, including:

- Incorrect training techniques, such as neglecting to stretch, doing excessive hill running, and sudden increases in mileage
- Tight hamstring muscles
- Obesity
- An out-turning of the knee or lower leg
- Osteoarthritis in the knee
- Medial meniscus tear

Treatment

Athletes with pes anserine bursitis should take steps to modify their workout program so that the inflammation does not recur. Other treatments include:

- **Rest.** Discontinue the activity or substitute a different activity until the bursitis clears up.
- **Ice.** Apply ice at regular intervals three or four times a day for 20 minutes at a time.



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- **Anti-inflammatory medication.** Aspirin and nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory medication (such as ibuprofen) may ease the pain and reduce the inflammation.
- **Injection.** Your doctor may inject a solution of anaesthetic and steroid into the bursa, which often provides prompt relief.
- **Physiotherapy.** Your doctor may recommend physical therapy for specific stretching exercises, and ice and ultrasound treatments.

Pes Anserine (Knee) Bursitis Rehabilitation Exercises

You can stretch your leg right away by doing the first 3 exercises. Start strengthening your leg by doing the last 4 exercises.

- **Hamstring stretch on wall:** Lie on your back with your buttocks close to a doorway, and extend your legs straight out in front of you along the floor. Raise one leg and rest it against the wall next to the door frame. Your other leg should extend through the doorway. You should feel a stretch in the back of your thigh. Hold this position for 15 to 30 seconds. Repeat 3 times and then switch legs and do the exercise again.
- **Standing calf stretch:** Facing a wall, put your hands against the wall at about eye level. Keep one leg back with the heel on the floor, and the other leg forward. Turn your back foot slightly inward (as if you were pigeon-toed) as you slowly lean into the wall until you feel a stretch in the back of your calf. Hold for 15 to 30 seconds. Repeat 3 times and then switch the position of your legs and repeat the exercise 3 times. Do this exercise several times each day.
- **Quadriceps stretch:** Stand an arm's length away from the wall with your injured leg farthest from the wall. Facing straight ahead, brace yourself by keeping one hand against the wall. With your other hand, grasp the ankle of your injured leg and pull your heel toward your buttocks. Don't arch or twist your back. Keep your knees together. Hold this stretch for 15 to 30 seconds.
- **Hip adductor stretch:** Lie on your back, bend your knees, and put your feet flat on the floor. Gently spread your knees apart, stretching the muscles on the inside of your thigh. Hold this for 15 to 30 seconds. Repeat 3 times.
- **Quad sets:** Sitting on the floor with your injured leg straight and your other leg bent, press the back of the knee of your injured leg against the floor by tightening the muscles on the top of your thigh. Hold this position 10 seconds. Relax. Do 3 sets of 10.
- **Isometric knee flexion:** Sitting on the floor with one leg slightly bent, dig the heel of your other leg into the floor and tighten up the back of your thigh muscles. Hold this position for 5 seconds. Do 3 sets of 10.
- **Heel slide:** Sit on a firm surface with your legs straight in front of you. Slowly slide the heel of your injured leg toward your buttock by pulling your knee to your chest as you slide. Return to the starting position. Do 3 sets of 10.



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Hamstring stretch on wall



Standing calf stretch



Quadriceps stretch



Hip adductor stretch



Quad sets



Isometric knee flexion



Heel slide

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