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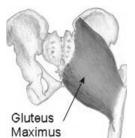
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# **REMINDER:**

Obtain medical clearance and physician's release prior to beginning an exercise program for clients with medical or orthopedic concerns.

#### Function of the Gluteus Maximus

- Accelerates Hip Extension & External Rotation
- Decelerates Femoral Internal Rotation & Extension
- Upper Fibers Abduct & Lower Fibers Adduct the hip



# Function of the Gluteus Medius



- Accelerates Hip Abduction
- Decelerates Hip Adduction
- Stabilizes Hip in Neutral Standing

#### A Link in the Posterior Chain

- Controls Gait
- · Stabilizes the SI Joints
- Stabilizes the Pelvis
- Accelerates & Decelerates Trunk Rotation



# Musculoskeletal Injuries & Glutes



- Plantar Fascitis
- Shin Splints
- Knee & Hip Pain
- Non-Contact ACL Injuries
- SI Joint Dysfunction
- Low Back Pain
- Rotator Cuff Injury

### Lack of Gluteal Activity in Gait

- Leads to excessive pronation in stance phase, poor control of knee extension, weakness during push-off
- Compensations leads to overuse of Hamstrings, Quadriceps, Erector Spinae, Soleus, Gastrocnemius, and Anterior Tibalis



# Impact of Dysfunction on Knees



- Increased external rotation of knee stretches knee ligaments, potentially damages Menisci and articular cartilage
- Women with PFPS were 26% weaker in hip abduction and 36% weaker in hip external rotation
- · Increased risk of ACL injury

# Glute Dysfunction in Low Back Pain



- · Role in Posture
- Gluteal muscles help absorb vertical ground reaction forces (GRF)
- Excessive lumbar extension to compensate for poor hip flexibility

### **Shoulder Dysfunction**

- Failure to accelerate trunk rotation
- Failure to decelerate trunk rotation



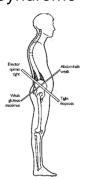
# What Causes Gluteal Dysfunction?



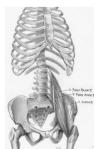
- Sitting or standing too long over time
- Severe ankle sprain?
- · Back injury
- Weak "core"
- Trigger Points
- Disuse

# The Lower-Crossed Syndrome

- Vladamir Janda
- Anterior Pelvic Tilt
  - Short, Tight Psoas
  - Long, Inhibited Gluteus Maximus
  - Short, Tight Erector Spinae
  - Long, Inhibited Rectus
     Abdominus, External Oblique,
     TVA



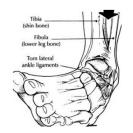
# Reciprocal Inhibition by Psoas?



- Psoas pulls femur into external rotation and flexion
- Tightness in psoas inhibits gluteus maximus
- Increased recruitment erector spinae inhibits rectus abdominus & TVA
- Hamstrings work to extend the hip

### 

- Ankle sprains result in delayed activation of Gluteus Maximus bilaterally, in turn compromising pelvic stability and leading to compensations
  - Bullock-Saxton, et al (1994)



#### **Back Pain**



- Altered patterns of hip extensor recruitment and lumbo-pelvic rhythm
  - Leinonen et al (2000)
- Glutes fatigue more quickly due to atrophy from disuse
  - Kankaanpaa et al (1998)

# Identifying Glute Dysfunction



- McGill's Bridge Assessment
- Determining Muscle Firing Order
- Trendelenburg's Sign
- Trigger Points

### Prone Hip Extension Assessment

- Start in Prone Lying
- Extend Hip and Hold
- Glute Should Fire 1st





#### Weakness in Glute Medius

- Trendelenburg's Sign
- Indicates Abductor Weakness on the Stance Side



#### Neuromuscular Reprogramming

- Activate Glutes with Isometrics
- Retrain Glutes Functionally in all 3 Planes of Motion



#### Regularly Stretch Psoas

- A tight psoas is one "cause" of gluteus maximus dysfunction
- Stretching the psoas regularly is essential to reversing the Anterior Pelvic Tilt
- Dynamic stretching in all 3 planes of motion with respect to the Anterior "Line" of the body



#### Stretch Rectus/Quadriceps Femoris



- Rectus Femoris is often neglected in favor of stretching Psoas to correct Anterior Pelvic Tilt
- Stretch RF regularly
- Incorporate Glute contraction with stretch to stabilize pelvis

#### **Activate Psoas**

- Standing Single Knee to Chest
- Hold 15 Seconds



# Reawakening Exercises

- Clamshell Exercise
- Hip Abduction
- Hip Adduction
- Bridging
- Proprioception Exercise



# "The Clamshell Exercise"



- 2/9
- Hip Lateral Rotation with Knees Flexed
- Generate awareness upon palpation of glute medius during hip rotation

# Prone & Supine Buttocks Squeeze

- Begin Lying Prone
- Isometrically Contract Buttocks
- Hold 5-10 Seconds
- Repeat
- Perform in Supine Bridge Position



# Side Lying Hip Adduction



- Lower portion of Gluteus Maximus is a Hip Adductor
- Extend the Active Hip while Adducting to best engage Glutes



- Progress to standing Hip Adduction with Extension
  - PNF Patterns
- Forget the Hip Adduction Machine!

# Hip Abduction Training

- Begin with Side-Lying Hip Abduction Isometrics and
- Progress to Dynamic Hip Abductor Activities using Elastic Rings



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# Single Leg Squat or Deadlift





# Better Lunges for Better Buns

 The "Glute" Lunge
 Hip Dominant Variation



# Lateral Lunging





#### Core Training Past 50





# Integrated Core Strengthening



- Squats, Deadlifts & Single Leg Variations
- Contra-Lateral Dumbbell
- Hypertrophy-to-Strength-to-Power
- Contraction should occur early during lifts to provide pelvic stability

# Infusing "Core" Into Training

 Incorporate select core activities into cardio, strength and balance training.



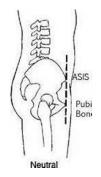
#### The Function of the Core



- To create and sustain sufficient intra-abdominal pressure to counteract compressive forces resulting from axial loading
- To resist forces that move the spine out of its preferred neutral position

#### Keeping Your Core in Neutral

- Awareness
- Range of Motion to achieve the correct position
- Strength/Stamina to maintain the position
- Coordination to hold the position during dynamic movements



# **Building Your Own Belt**



- Bracing optimizes stability during compressive loading
- Contract all of the muscles in the abdominal wall, low back and hips without drawing in or pushing out the belly
- Enhances and sustains intra-abdominal pressure

Stability Before Mobility "Don't let the perfect become the enemy of the good."



- Isometric exercises in "core"-neutral position precede dynamic exercises designed to stress the "core"
- Hold static contractions for ~7 seconds
- Repeat up to 5 times

#### **Plank**

- Progressions:
  - Incline Position
  - Push-Up Position
  - Feet Wide, Elbows Narrow
  - Neutral
  - One Leg Up
  - Opposite Arm/Leg Up
  - Full Extension
- - Tips:
    - Abduct Scapulae
    - Tighten ALL anterior
    - muscles

# **Back Bridging**

- Butt Squeeze
- Single Leg
  - Alternating
- Swiss Ball



## How Strong is Your Bridge?

Barbell Hip Thrust





Thrust hips vigorously, immediately dropping hips to ground to avoid impact by the barbell and repeat. Note: Thick Bar Pad is essential

### Barbell Glute Bridge





# Cardio Training for Your Glutes



- Gluteal Activation by Popular Cardio Activity
  - Treadmill (jogging): 48.9%
  - Elliptical: 32.6%
  - Treadmill (walking): 24.3%
  - StairMaster: 24.0%
  - Recumbent Bike: 6.0%

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