Scott Femoral Tibial Tensor/Spreaders

Designed by Richard L. MD*

Used before determining femoral component rotation to help properly tense the medial and lateral ligaments and help assure a stable, balanced flexion gap

An important part of surgical technique during total knee arthroplasty is the establishment of a symmetric balanced flexion gap. This can be achieved by tensing the medial and lateral ligaments with laminar spreaders and rotating the femoral component until a rectangular space is formed. The calibrated Tensor/Spreader allows the surgeon to choose a reproducible amount of tension across the medial or lateral flexion space.

In the varus knee, any medial release necessary to balance the knee in extension is performed first. In the valgus knee, the flexion gap can be balanced before the extension gap if the lateral retinaculum (not the lateral collateral ligament) is all that needs releasing to correct the deformity.

The spreader can be used before or after tibial preparation and also during revision surgery after a well-aligned tibial platform has been established.

The knee is flexed 90 degrees. Any medial retractor is removed. The medial gap is tensed with a plain or calibrated laminar spreader that is opened until the medial collateral ligament is fully tensed. The calibrated tensor is applied laterally and opened to the desired tension on the indicator. The femoral component is rotated until a rectangular gap is formed based off the tibial cut or an external tibial alignment device (if the tibial resection has not yet been performed).

PRODUCT NO’S:

1995  [Narrow Fixed Pads]
Overall Length: 7” (17.8 cm)
Blade Width: 7 mm
Opens to: 40 mm

1996* [Wide Fixed Pads]
Overall Length: 7” (17.8 cm)
Pads: 22 mm x 11 mm
Opens to: 40 mm

1997 [Wide Block Pads]
Overall Length: 7” (17.8 cm)
Pads: 23 mm x 12 mm
Opens to: 40 mm

1998 [Round Pads]
Overall Length: 7” (17.8 cm)
Pads: 25 mm x 25 mm
Opens to: 40 mm

*Nat modification designed by Raymond H. Kim, MD

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