

Department of PHYSIOTHERAPY

# **Back Flexibility Exercises**



### ■ Back Extension in Standing



- i. Stand upright with your hands placed over your lower back.
- ii. Bend your upper body backwards.

| Hold second(s).      |
|----------------------|
| Do set(s).           |
| Do session(s) a day. |

# ☐ Flexion in Sitting



- i. Start from a sitting position.
- ii. Bend your body forward and hug both knees.

| Hold second(s).      |
|----------------------|
| Do set(s).           |
| Do session(s) a day. |

### □ Midback Stretch



- i. Start from a kneeling position.
- ii. Bend your body forward and down.
- iii. Push your chest towards floor, reaching forward as far as you can.

| Hold second(s).      |
|----------------------|
| Do set(s).           |
| Do session(s) a day. |

# ☐ Open Book in Side Lying





Hold \_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

- i. Lie on your side with both arms straight in front of you.
- ii. Move the top hand across your body (as shown in the picture).

# ☐ Thoracic Extension in Supine





Hold \_\_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

- Lie on your back and face upwards. Place a rolled towel under the middle of your back.
- ii. Lift both hands towards the ceiling and above your head as high as you can.

### Hamstring Stretch





Hold \_\_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

- i. Lie on your back and face upwards.
- ii. Bend the affected knee towards your chest and hold onto it.
- iii. Straighten your knee until a comfortable stretch is felt in the back of your thigh.

### ☐ Quadratus Lumborum Stretch



- Stand upright.
- ii. Lift your arm over your head and to the side. Reach to the opposite side until a comfortable stretch is felt at the side of your body.

Hold \_\_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

### □ Pelvic Tilts



- i. Lie on your back facing up and bend your knees in.
- ii. Flatten your back by tightening your stomach and buttocks muscles.

Hold \_\_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

# ☐ Angry Cat Stretch



- Start in a kneeling position and place your palms on the floor.
- ii. Tuck your chin in, and arch your back by tightening your stomach until you feel a stretch in your upper back. (Shown in the picture)

Hold \_\_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

### ☐ Quadriceps Stretch



- i. Hold on to a stable support.
- Pull your heel towards your buttock until a stretch is felt along the front of your thigh.
- iii. Maintain an upright posture.

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

# ☐ Piriformis Stretch in Sitting





Hold second(s).

Do \_\_set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

- i. Start from a sitting position.
- ii. Cross the affected leg over your other knee.
- iii. Bend forward at the hips until a comfortable stretch is felt in the buttocks / hip area.

### □ Trunk Rotation



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Hold ___ second(s).

Do ___ set(s).

Do ___ session(s) a day.
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- i. Lie on your back and face upwards; keep your back flat.
- ii. Bend your knees in, and keep your feet together.
- iii. Twist your lower body so that both your knees turn to the left and right.

# ☐ Single Leg Trunk Rotation



Hold \_\_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

- i. Lie on your back and face upwards; keep your back flat.
- ii. Bend one knee and pull it towards the opposite side.

### □ Back Extension in Prone (Cobra stretch)



Hold \_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_ session(s) a day.

- i. Lie on your stomach and face downwards.
- ii. Place your elbows and forearms shoulder-width apart on the floor.
- iii. Gradually lift your upper body towards the ceiling, keeping your hips in contact with the floor.
- iv. Keep your lower back and buttocks relaxed.

### ☐ Trunk Flexion



Hold \_\_\_\_ second(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ set(s).

Do \_\_\_\_ session(s) a day.

- i. Lie on your back and face upwards.
- ii. Pull both knees towards your chest until you feel a comfortable stretch in your lower back.
- iii. Keep your back relaxed.

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