

ORTHOPEDIC AND SPORTS MEDICINE CENTER

SPORTS MEDICINE DIVISION
COMBINED REHAB PROTOCOLS



Rotator Cuff Repair Conservative Rehab Protocol

Edited: March 2016

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MEDICINE SPECIALISTS**

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TIMELINE

GOALS

EXERCISES/METHODS

BRACING/SLING

- Sling for 6 weeks

ROM RESTRICTIONS

- See Individual Phases

WEIGHT BEARING

- 5lbs for 10 weeks
- 20 lbs from 10-14 weeks
- No AROM at shoulder, no lifting with operated arm 6 wks
- In supine, support arm posteriorly

OTHER RESTRICTIONS AND KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- ***Biceps Tenodesis = No Resisted Elbow Flexion for 6 weeks***

Early Post-operative Day 1-week 2	• Protect and maintain integrity of the repair • Promote healing • Painfree PROM shoulder • Diminish pain and inflammation • Prevent muscle inhibition	• Hand grip, finger AROM • Elbow and wrist AROM (** No AROM at elbow if BICEPS TENODESIS) • Cervical AROM, UT stretching, chin tucks • Patient Educ: posture, positioning, sling wear, HEP • Modalities: Ice,
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: Pain improved No PROM at shoulder ***Biceps Tenodesis = No Resisted Elbow Flexion for 6 weeks***		
Sub-Acute Post-Operative: 2-4 weeks Protection + Begin PROM • Flexion to 120 deg • Abduction to 90 deg • IR to belly • ER to 30 deg (at 45 deg abduction) • Extension to 30 deg *** If Subscapularis Repair, PROM: • Flexion to 120 deg • Abduction to 90 deg • IR to belly • ER to 10 deg (at 45 deg abd) • Extension to 30 deg	• Protect and maintain integrity of the repair • Promote healing • Painfree PROM shoulder • Diminish pain and inflammation • Prevent muscle inhibition	• Continue as above • PROM: per restrictions based on repair; to tolerance only • GH joint mobs (Gr. I, II) – Ant, post, distraction • STM to periscap muscles and upper quarter • Modalities: Ice, Estim/TENS • Pendulums: NO ACTIVE movement • Scapular re-education (rhythmic stabilization) in S/L • Scap strength: protraction/retraction, depression/elevation • NMES (scapular strength, ER isometrics)
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: Starting PROM painfree		

TIMELINE

GOALS

EXERCISES/METHODS

SHOWERING

1. May Shower day 1 after surgery
2. Must "waterproof" surgical site for 5 days after surgery
3. No submerging wounds for 4 weeks

WOUND CARE

1. Remove everything except steri strips the day after surgery
2. Place clean gauze or op-site on wounds daily for 5 days

MEDICATIONS

1. Pain medicine only as needed. Wean off as soon as possible

Phase III –Protection Progress PROM Week 5-6: PROM: • Flexion to 160 deg • Abduction to 120 deg • IR to belly • ER to 60 deg (at 45 deg abduction) • Extension to 30 deg *** If Subscapularis Repair, PROM: • Flexion to 160 deg • Abduction to 120 deg • IR to belly • ER to 30 deg (at 45 deg abd) • Extension to 30 deg	• Protection of repair site • Minimize pain • Promote healing • Regain PROM of shoulder	• Continue all as above (2-4 wk phase) • PROM per restrictions based on repair • OK to progress flex, abd to full if pt can tolerate • Cardio: Walking, stationary biking (with sling)
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: • Painless PROM to limits		
Phase IV Minimal protection: AAROM begins Week 6 -8: ***If SUBSCAPULARIS re- pair: • Progress flex, abd, IR, ext to full PROM • ER to 60 deg	• PROM: Progress until full PROM achieved • Resume all ADLs with involved UE • Avoid oversteering the repair • No supporting body weight with involved hand/arm • Avoid excessive extension and IR	• Continue as above • PROM until full (unless SUBSCAP RE-PAIR) • ** If Biceps Tenodesis: Begin AROM at elbow • Aquatic therapy once incisions healed: shoulder AAROM • Begin AAROM: wand (supine->semi-recumbant->standing), pulleys • • Submax isometrics (Flex/ext, Abd/Add, IR/ER) • UBE – no resistance • Prone Rows, Supine Serratus Punches, T-band scap retraction, shrugs • OKC stabilization/proprioception (Supine, S/L) • **Bicep curls resisted – IF NO BICEPS TENODESIS***
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: • Full PROM unless SUBSCAP repair (ER to 60 deg)		

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Phase V Begin AROM, light strengthening Week 8-10:	• AROM • Return to normal light function • 20lbs lift restrict • Start ADLs • Full ROM for all repair types • Ok to begin lifting > 5lbs • Ok for OH activities	• Continue with PROM, AAROM until full ROM achieved. • Stretching: • Towel IR stretch • Post. Capsule stretching • Initiate AROM: • ER in S/L • IR, ER in supine or standing • Flex, Abd, Scaption to 90 deg (thumb up) – PROGRESS S/L à SUPINE à STANDING • ****Add resisted Bicep Curls if BICEPS TENODESIS • Progress T-Band exercises: • No monies • IR/ER focus for subscap and infraspinatus strength • Rhythmic/Dynamic Stabilization: • PRN D1/D2's (no resist) • CKC • Wall Ball circles • Wall Push-ups with a plus
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: • Painfree AROM		
Phase VI Continued Light strength Weeks 10-12	• AROM full • Return to normal light function • 20lbs lift restrict • Full ADLs • Full ROM for all repair types	• Add wts to Standing Shoulder Isotonics if good scapulohumeral rhythm with elevation (no humeral hiking) • UBE with resistance • Prone scap exercises: • Flexion with thumb up • Abduction at 100 deg thumb up ("Y") • Horiz Abd with thumb up ("T") • Ext with max ER/palms down ("I") • "6 Pack Back"
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: • Full AROM without shoulder hiking (dysfunctional arc) • Good RC control		

TIMELINE

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Phase VI : Advanced Strength, Proprioception <i>Week 12-16</i>	- Improved RC strength - Start plyo - Full ADL - Painfree AROM	- Progress prone scap exercises with wts - Proprioception/Stabilization: - Statue of Liberties - Physioball balance - PNF with resistance - Begin conventional weight lifting machines - UE Plyometrics with rebounder: - Chest pass (no simulated throwing) - Begin S/L Eccentrics for Post Cuff (manual resistà tubing) - IR/ER strengthening at 90/90
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: - Full RC strength - Demonstrates good control with Plyometrics		
Phase VI – Return to Sports Week 16- to Sport Return Check with MD for clearance for: - OH and Serving Sports - Contact Sports - Throwing Sports - Swimming - Begin full weight lifting in gym	<i>To return to full sport activities</i> – must pass return to sport testing	- Throwing Progression - Return to Sport UE Protocol - Advanced CKC stability
Goals/Restrictions/Milestones: - Full AROM without shoulder hiking (dysfunctional arc) - Good RC control		

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RETURN TO PLAY CRITERIA



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