

ROTATOR CUFF REPAIR REHABILITATION PROGRAM

(Large to Massive Tear)

Modified from Thigpen et. al. The American Society of Shoulder and Elbow Therapists' Consensus Statement on Rehabilitation Following Arthroscopic Rotator Cuff Repair. Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery. 2016.

	RANGE OF MOTION	SLING	THERAPEUTIC EXERCISE
PHASE I: 1-6 WEEKS POST-OP	 No PROM of shoulder for first 6 weeks ROM as tolerated for elbow, wrist and hand For Biceps Tenodesis: No Active elbow flexion until 3 weeks (AAROM ok) 	• Immobilized in sling with abduction pillow at all times, may be removed for exercises and showering. Wear sling at night.	 NO Pendulums Cervical ROM Begin scapula musculature isometrics / sets Elbow, wrist, hand ROM Ball squeezes For Biceps Tenodesis: No Active elbow flexion until 3 weeks (AAROM ok)
PHASE II: 6-8 WEEKS POST-OP	 Passive Forward Elevation (PFE): 60 degrees Passive External Rotation (PER) at 20° of abduction: 0° PER at 90° of abd: NA Active Forward Elevation (AFE): NA 	 Immobilized in sling with abduction pillow at all times, may be removed for exercises and showering. Wear sling at night. Continue use of sling until end of Week 7 Between Week 7 and 8 may wear sling for comfort only Discontinue sling at end of Week 8 	 Codman's Pendulums Therapist assisted Forward Elevation Supine passive ER stretches with broom handle Table slides Continue scapula musculature isometrics / sets Elbow, wrist, hand ROM Ball squeezes
PHASE III: 8-10 WEEKS POST-OP	 PFE: 90° PER at 20° of abd: 20° PER at 90° of abd: NA AFE: NA 	• None	 Continue Phase I and II exercises Supine AAROM Pulley exercises Light scapular strengthening (retraction/protraction), shoulder shrugs, scapular setting Gentle joint mobilization and soft tissue mobilization

(TO BE GIVEN TO PHYSICAL THERAPIST)



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PHASE IV: 10-16 WEEKS POST-OP	 10 WEEKS PFE: 90° - 120° PER at 20° of abd: 20° - 30° PER at 90° of abd: NA AFE: NA 13 WEEKS PFE: 130° - 155° PER at 20° of abd: 30° - 45° PER at 90° of abd: 45°-60° AFE: 80°-120° 16 WEEKS PFE: 140° - WNL PER at 20° of abd: 30° - WNL PER at 90° of abd: 75° - WNL AFE: 120° WNL 	• None	 Stretching, mobs, ROM exercises NO ROTATOR CUFF RESISTANCE EXERCISES Progress supine to seated to standing AAROM Progress pool based AAROM if available Begin unrestricted AROM against gravity at 9 weeks Towel Slide or horizontal dusting AAROM supine washcloth press-up AROM supine press-up Side-lying supported active elevation (on box or exercise ball) AROM reclined wedge press-up Supine elastic band Forward Elevation Aquatic Forward Elevation at slow speed
PHASE V: 16-22 WEEKS POST-OP	AFE: 120°-WNL • Full ROM without discomfort	• None	 Begin light theraband resistance exercises for the rotator cuff AROM or Resisted Pully Forward Elevation Incline Dusting Ball roll on wall FE with upright T-bar AAROM elevation Upright T-bar AAROM FE, active lowering Upright active FE with no weight Upright active FE 1 lbs. Aquatic FE fast speed Side-lying dumbbell ER at 0°, resistance of 25% of MVIC Elastic resistance ER, IR and forward punch Begin strengthening for lats, biceps/triceps, pecs, rhomboids, deltoids Progress with theraband exercises slowly to tolerance Begin to add sport and job specific activities



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PHASE VI: 22-28 WEEKS POST-OP	Full ROM without discomfort	• None	 Endurance High, middle and low scapular rows Standing dumbbell ER at 0° abd, 10-rep max Standing dumbbell ER in scapular plane, 10-rep max Elastic resistance shoulder flexion Elastic resistance throwing accelerate Elastic IR at 90°
PHASE VII: 28+ WEEKS POST-OP	• Full ROM without discomfort	• None	 Strengthening Upright FE 3-4 lb, 10 rep max Side-lying dumbbell ER at 0°, 10-rep max Prone horizontal abd, 10-rep max Seated military press Elastic resistance ER at 90° Elastic resistance throwing decelerate Standing dumbbell ER at 90° abd, 10-rep max If cleared by Dr. Roth, may now be able to return to: Weight Training Skiing Golf Basketball Manual Labor
PHASE VIII: 10+ MONTHS POST-OP	• Full ROM without discomfort	• None	 If cleared by Dr. Roth, may now be able to return to: Throwing Sports Tennis Volleyball