

Arthroscopic Shoulder Stabilization Rehabilitation

PHASE I - IMMEDIATE POSTSURGICAL PHASE (DAYS 1 - 14)

Goals

- 1. Maintain integrity of the repair
- 2. Diminish pain and inflammation
- 3. Prevent muscular inhibition

Days 1 - 14

- Slina
- Elbow/hand gripping and ROM exercises
- Cryotherapy/ice for pain and inflammation 15-20 minutes every hour
- Sleeping sleep in sling or brace

Precautions To Be Maintained Through Week 6

- 1. Maintain arm in brace, remove only for exercise
- 2. No lifting of objects
- 3. No excessive shoulder extension or external rotation
- 4. No excessive or aggressive stretching or sudden movements
- 5. No supporting of body weight by hands
- 6. No bimanual activities (pulling on pants/socks, etc.)

PHASE II - PROTECTION PHASE (WEEKS 3 - 6)

Goals

- 1. Allow healing of soft tissue, protect repair
- 2. Gradually restore full PROM by weeks 4 6
- 3. Re-establish dynamic shoulder stability
- 4. Decrease pain and inflammation
- 5. To achieve near full PROM by week 7

Weeks 3 - 4

- Continue pendulum exercises
- Continue use of cryotherapy/ice as needed if still swollen
- Depending upon repair/tissue/pathology, may begin gentle PT
- Staged Passive Range of Motion (PROM)
- ° Passive Forward Elevation (PFE): 90°
- $^{\circ}$ Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 20 $^{\circ}$ abd: 10 30 $^{\circ}$
- ° Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 90° abd: Contraindicated
- Active Forward Elevation (AFE): N/A

Weeks 5 - 6

- May remove sling at home but should keep on while sleeping or in community
- Start formal PT around weeks 5 6 if not already begun
- Pendulum exercises
- PROM/AAROM exercises
- Passive Forward Elevation (PFE): 135°
- ° Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 20° abd: 35 50°
- ° Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 90° abd: 45°
- Active Forward Elevation (AFE): N/A
- Submaximal rotator cuff (RTC) isometrics



Pendulum, Circular-Bend forward 90 degrees at the waist, using a table for support.

Rock body in a circular pattern to move arm clockwise 10 times, then counterclockwise 10 times. Do 3 sessions a day.

*American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons

PHASE III - INTERMEDIATE PHASE (WEEKS 7 - 12)

Goals

- 1. Maintain staged ROM goals to normalize PROM/AROM. DO NOT EXCEED!
- 2. Minimize pain
- 3. Increase strength and endurance
- 4. Increase functional activities

Weeks 7 - 8

- Discontinue sling
- Continue PROM/AAROM/AROM (as needed to maintain staged ROM)
- Passive Forward Elevation (PFE): 135°
- ° Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 20° abd: 35 50°
- ° Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 90° abd: 45°
- Active Forward Elevation (AFE): 115°
- · Work on scapulohumeral rhythm, periscapular strengthening (no push-ups plus)
- May use arm for light activities of daily living (ADLs)
- May begin gentle AROM
- · Gentle core strengthening

Weeks 9 - 12

- Continue PROM/AAROM/AROM (as needed to maintain staged ROM)
- ° Passive Forward Elevation (PFE): 155°
- ° Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 20° abd: 50 65°
- ° Passive External Rotation (PER) @ 90° abd: 75°
- ° Active Forward Elevation (AFE): 145°

PHASE IV - ADVANCED STRENGTHENING PHASE (WEEKS 13 - 24)

Goals

- 1. Maintain full nonpainful ROM
- 2. Enhance functional use of upper extremity
- 3. Improve muscular strength and power
- 4. Gradual return to functional activities

Weeks 13 - 19

- Continue ROM and gentle stretching to maintain full ROM
- Self capsular stretches
- Progress shoulder strengthening exercises

PHASE V - RETURN TO ACTIVITY PHASE (WEEKS 24+)

Goals

- 1. Gradual return to strenuous work activities
- 2. Gradual return to recreational sport activities

Week 24

- Continue stretching, if motion is tight
- May initiate interval sport program (i.e., golf, etc.)

Reference: American Society of Shoulder & Elbow Therapists, CONSENSUS
REHABILITATION GUIDELINES, Arthroscopic Anterior Stabilization with or without Bankart Repair. Rev. July 2007. http://www.asset-usa.org/Guidelines/Arthroscopic_Anterior_Stabilization.pdf