

Posterior Shoulder Stabilization Rehabilitation Protocol

Jonathan M. Cooper, DO

Phone: 952-456-7617 | Fax: 952-456-7967

Specific requests or deviations that fall outside the scope of this protocol will be made by the provider as appropriate for the individual patient.

Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
(Weeks 0 - 6)	(Weeks 6 – 12)	(Week 12 – Discharge)
Regular therapy visits (for early PROM) is at the therapist's and surgeon's discretion, but should begin by the fourth week with Phase I guidelines. EDUCATE	PROM GUIDELINES (Goals) • Forward elevation: 0-120° (week 6) 0-160°+ (week 12) • EXT: 0-45° EXERCISES	 ROM GUIDELINES ROM is expected to be WNL for all planes of motion. If the patient is a high-level athlete, more than 90 degrees of ER may be needed.
 Self Care Home ice use Sling – 6 weeks for open or arthroscopic repairs (May be removed for dressing, hygiene, and tabletop use of hand, wrist, and elbow) Warning Signs - fever, chills, redness, swelling PROM GUIDELINES (Goals) Forward elevation: 0-90° ABD: 0-60° ER: up to 45° in scapular plane IR: limit EXERCISES Pain-free gentle pendulums 	Begin scapular stabilization* Begin wand and/or pulley assisted AAROM Supine FF stretch Week 6 Begin AROM UBE with minimal resistance Closed chain Week 8 Closed chain isometrics Gentle and pain-free manual joint stretching may begin at 8 weeks if ROM is limited, excluding stress to the posterior capsule Week 8-12	CRITERIA FOR PROGRESSION TO SPORT SPECIFIC PROGRAM Pain-free full ROM, normal glenohumeral rhythm, upper extremity strength 5/5, isokinetic strength 85% of unaffected side RETURN TO SPORTS/WORK The surgeon must clear "Full Force" status and Throwing Program if patient is to return to sports, heavy manual labor, etc. Consider referral to sports specific rehab therapist if patient is returning to sport. Maximum improvement, full-recovery, or unrestricted activity/work is anticipated at 8-12 months
 AROM: elbow, wrist, hand Scapular exercises Isometrics, in neutral, pain-free CRITERIA FOR PROGRESSION Minimal pain with PROM exercises and 90° forward elevation GENERAL GOALS Protect the surgical repair, maintain regional joint mobility, and control swelling and pain. 	PREs* at 8-12 weeks based on patient tolerance Isotonic PRE Examples *2 oz. = dinner knife *4 oz. = can of tuna *10 oz. = soup can *1 lb. Weight *2 lbs., 3lbs., etc. Example Goals: Overhead athlete, 3-5 lbs. General candidate, 1-3 lbs. Progress only if pain free. GENERAL GOALS Progress PROM, begin strengthening, and stress patient independence with home program.	GENERAL GOALS Restore functional use of involved extremity for all required activities (work, sports, daily activities, etc.)

Revised 01/202